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TITLE OF THESIS COAL VALLEY PIT SLOPE STABILITY STUDY:
EVALUATION OF CONE INDENTER AND BRUSH
PLATENS AND JANBU/MORGENSTERN-PRICE
ANALYSES

DEGREE FOR WHICH THESIS WAS PRESENTED MASTER OF SCIENCE

YEAR THIS DEGREE GRANTED FALL 1981

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COAL VALLEY PIT SLOPE STABILITY STUDY: EVALUATION OF CONE
INDENTER AND BRUSH PLATENS AND JANBU/MORGENSTERN-PRICE
ANALYSES

by



CRAIG P. ACOTT

A THESIS

SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH
IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE
OF MASTER OF SCIENCE

IN

MINING ENGINEERING

DEPARTMENT OF MINERAL ENGINEERING

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

FALL 1981

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

The undersigned certify that they have read, and recommend to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, for acceptance, a thesis entitled COAL VALLEY PIT SLOPE STABILITY STUDY: EVALUATION OF CONE INDENTER AND BRUSH PLATEN TESTS AND JANBU/MORGENSTERN-PRICE ANALYSES submitted by CRAIG P. ACOTT in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of MASTER OF SCIENCE in MINING ENGINEERING.

Abstract

As partial fulfilment of the requirements for a M.Sc. Degree in Mining Engineering, a slope stability analysis and rock testing program was conducted on Luscar Sterco (1977) Ltd.'s Coal Valley Property. The analysis was completed using two different limit equilibrium models, namely the Morgenstern-Price and Simplified Janbu Method. The same geotechnical/geological data base was applied to each method in order to evaluate the application of Janbu's simplified model to slope stability analysis for mine slope design at Coal Valley.

An additional objective of this study was to evaluate the National Coal Board's (NCB) Cone Indenter as a quick index test for determining the uniaxial compressive strength of the soft rocks characteristic of Coal Valley strata. Test results from the Cone Indenter were compared to uniaxial compression tests conducted on similar specimens. A third goal of the research was the construction and preliminary testing of brush platens which, if successful, will permit uniaxial compressive strength testing of cylindrical specimens with unit length to diameter ratios less than the standard 2:1 value.

Results of the limit equilibrium analyses indicated that the additional expense of the Morgenstern-Price method can not be justified for slope design at Coal Valley. It was also found from the limited number of tests obtained with the NCB Cone Indenter and brush platens, that uniaxial

compressive strength values correlated reasonably well with those obtained by conventional testing methods. Additionally, the NCB Cone Indenter provides a useful index test for a variety of other mining applications, such as rock cuttability, drillability, and blastability indexing.

Acknowledgments

I would like to extend my gratitude to those people who assisted me over the course of this study. Special thanks are extended to Dr. B. Stimpson for his very valuable assistance and advice during this project.

I would also like to acknowledge the help provided by my fellow students: H. Lutley and R. Wright. In addition, thanks are extended to L. Ding and M. Gendron for their valuable technical assistance.

Finally, I would like to thank Luscar Ltd. for permitting the study to be conducted, and for the use of their computer system, library, and office services. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the assistance provided by the entire Geotechnical Department, consisting of M. Milligan, K. Hebil, and K. Holmes.

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1. Introduction

Mining of Pit 13 at the Coal Valley mine is tentatively scheduled for summer 1983. Past experience of Luscar Sterco (1977) Ltd. in Coal Valley has revealed that the pit wall stability is largely dependent upon the structural geology. Due to local variations in the geology over relatively short distances, it is not possible to predict the pit wall stability of Pit 13 entirely upon geotechnical information gathered from previously mined pits in the same area. Consequently, it was thought that a separate stability analysis was required for Pit 13.

Work began on the analysis in May 1979. Preliminary investigation of the area involved the collection and compilation of the existing geological information pertaining to the project. A preliminary geological interpretation for the Pit 13 area was developed based upon aerial photo interpretation, geophysical log interpretation, and drillhole log correlation.

After completion of the tentative geologic interpretation, a drilling and mapping program was initiated and completed. The field program was directed towards further delineation of geological structure and the provision of rock samples for a laboratory testing program. The testing program was designed to provide values of each major lithological unit's intact strength properties and to provide a basis on which the rock mass strength parameters could be estimated. The laboratory program was augmented

with quantitative strength estimates derived from back analyses of slope failures in previously mined areas in similar lithologies.

The geologic structure and strength parameters of the Pit 13 wall rock were used as a data base for two different limit equilibrium stability models, the Simplified Janbu and Morgenstern-Price. The overall factors of safety determined from these two slope stability methods were compared and their ease of application, accuracy, and cost contrasted.

2. Site Description

2.1 Location

The Coal Valley thermal coal mine is situated on the eastern edge of the Foothills of the Rocky Mountains, some 85 kilometers (52 miles) south of Edson, Alberta (Figure 1), and comprises four major mining zones: the Val D'Or, Silkstone, Mynheer A, and Mynheer B (Figure 2).

For the purposes of this study, work was limited to the proposed Pit 13 area located in the central portion of the Mynheer A mining region. The pit is bounded by the local grid lines 76200E to 80000E and 37000N to 41000N.

2.2 Surficial Aspects

2.2.1 Topography

The topographic relief is the most prominent surficial feature in the Pit 13 area (Photo 1). The mining zone is located on the south slope of a northwest striking ridge. The peak elevation of the ridge is approximately 1460 m (4800 ft), dipping to the southwest at an angle of about 25 degrees. Situated at the proposed mining site are two old surface mines. The bottom elevation of the old mines is roughly 1370 m (4500 ft), giving an overall topographic relief of about 90 m (300 ft). A more detailed description of these mines is given in Sections 2.6 and 2.8.

COAL VALLEY LOCATION MAP

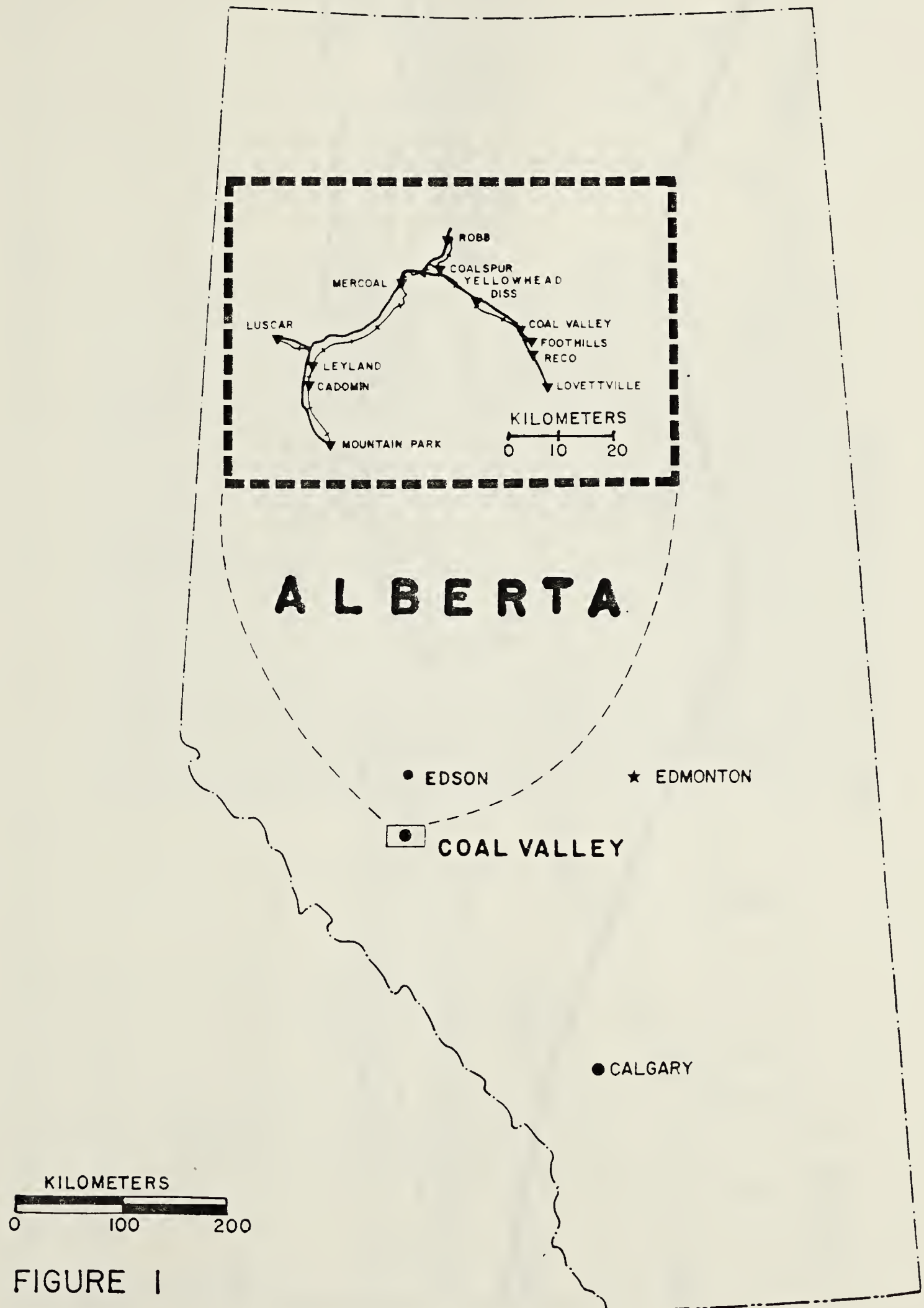


FIGURE 1

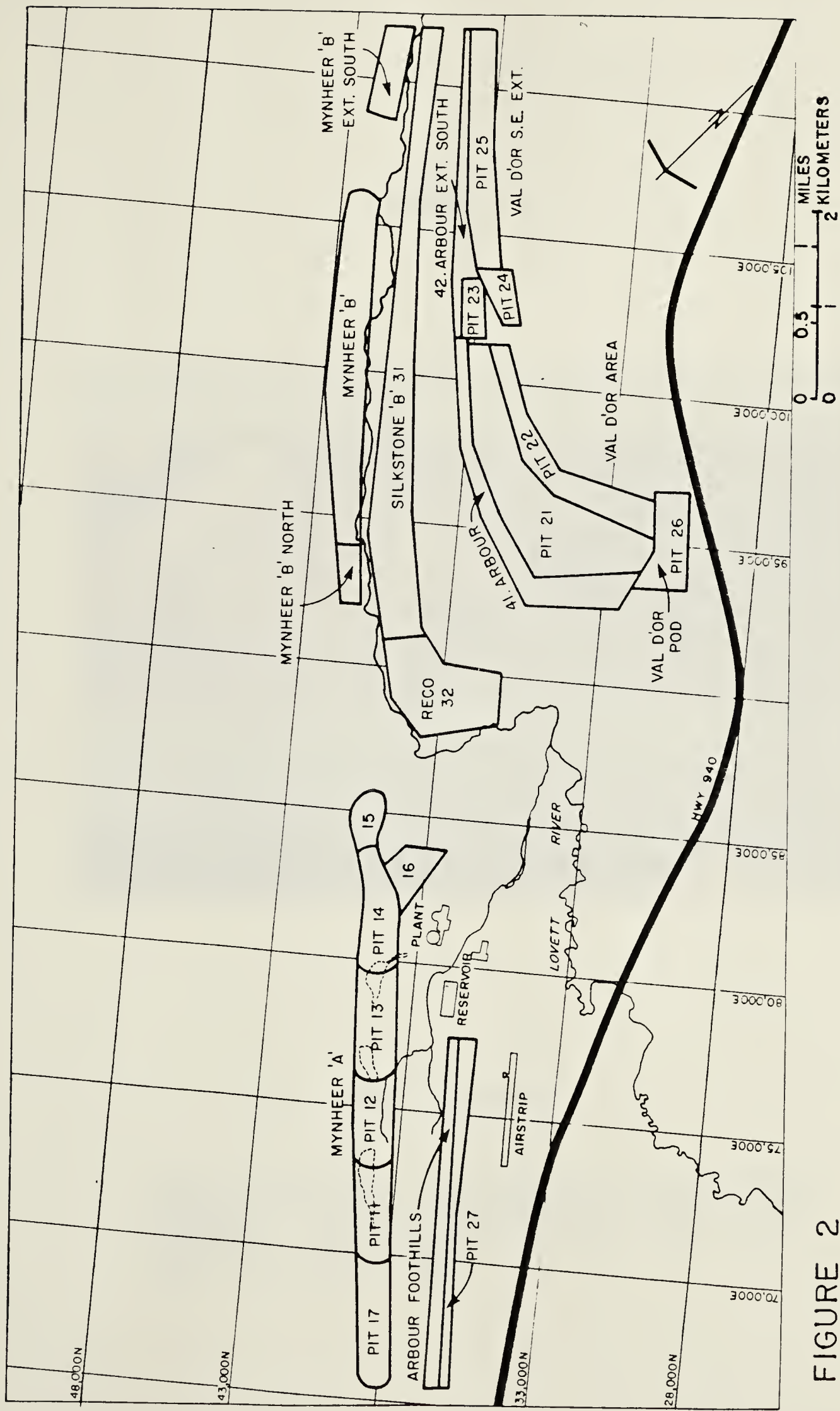


FIGURE 2

COAL VALLEY PIT LOCATIONS

PHOTO 1



PIT 13 AREA

Photo facing north, illustrating the central ridge in background, water filled old mine workings in foreground. Note condition of lower slopes excavated 25 to 30 years ago.

2.2.2 Soils

The soils in the Coal Valley region have been considerably disturbed by the early open pit and underground mining operations. The natural soil profile has been excavated or covered with fill in several areas of Pit 13. The original soils are generally classified as degraded Eutric Brunisols of the Maskuta Association (Dumanski et. al. 1972). They are sandy and well drained, characteristic of the calcareous sandstone from which they originated. The soils are shallow near the crest of the ridge but have been transported downslope to form deeper colluvial deposits near the toe. The exact thickness of the soils is somewhat variable, but generally ranges from 1 m (3 ft) near the ridge to 3 m (10 ft) at the bottom.

2.2.3 Vegetation

Floral composition of the Pit 13 area is dictated by the relatively dry conditions and the sandy, well drained soils. Slopes of 20 to 25 degrees on the southwest facing ridge retain little moisture, resulting in the development of a lodgepole pine - aspen poplar association. Understory vegetation consists of wild rose, creeping juniper, and bearberry, with interspersed grasses and forbs (Acott 1981).

2.3 Climate

The Coal Valley area generally experiences a subhumid, continental climate with long, cold winters and moderately mild summers. Winds are predominantly from the west and are most prominent in the months of March through June. Chinook winds are common in the winter months (Hillman et. al. 1978).

Precipitation data from the Lovett Fire Tower indicate an average annual precipitation of approximately 64 cm (25 in). The mean long term average for the months of May through September is 47 cm (18.5 in). The largest amounts of precipitation occurs in June and July (Environment Canada 1975).

Temperatures in the Coal Valley region have a high seasonal variation. The highest monthly mean temperature occurs in July and averages 13.3°C. The lowest monthly mean temperature is -18.3°C and occurs in January (Environment Canada 1975).

2.4 General Geology of the Coal Valley Area

The Coal Valley mining area occurs in a region of shallow, northeast striking thrust faults. It lies between the southerly dipping (60-80°) Beaverdam Thrust to the southwest and the easterly dipping Lovett Thrust to the northeast. Also located in the Coal Valley area is a series of steeply dipping to vertical northeast striking faults,

namely the Reco Fault and Reco Fault Extension (Internal Luscar Ltd. Report, 1978).

The Lovett River Syncline is the major fold in the region. It is located southwest of the mining area, and trends at approximately 135° plunging 5° to the south. This structure extends as far south as the Beaverdam Thrust (Alexander, 1977) and is offset by the Reco Fault. The Coal Valley Mine is located on the northern limb of the Lovett River Syncline whose beds dip at 15 to 18 degrees to the southwest.

2.5 Stratigraphy

The strata encountered in the Coal Valley area are generally referred to as the Coalspur Coal Measures (Alexander, 1977) and are part of the thick post-Wapiabi non-marine sediments of the Saunders Formation. The exact age of the Coalspur Coal Measures is unsure but considered by Alexander (1977) to be Paleocene in age. The coal measures consist of a monotonous sequence of arenaceous and argillaceous strata with few marker beds and fossils. Consequently, their exact stratigraphy and total thickness have not been determined (Internal Luscar Ltd. Report, 1978).

2.6 History

The eastern end of Pit 13 was previously mined by Coal Valley Mining Ltd.. The extraction method is uncertain, but consisted either of a truck-shovel or dragline operation. The company later joined with Sterling Collieries Ltd. and mined the western end of Pit 13 in a similar fashion. A central ridge, some 245 m (800 ft) long and 90 m (300 ft) high, resulted from the two operations. The Sterling Coal Valley mine remained in operation until 1954.

In July 1978, Luscar Sterco Ltd. developed a 2.27 million tonne (2.5 million ton), clean coal surface operation on the Coal Valley site. The surface Mine presently comprises a stripping operation in the Val D'Or region with open pit mining in the Mynheer A region. At this time, Pits 14 and 15 are the only areas being mined in the Mynheer A zone.

2.7 Mining Methods

The mining method for Pit 13 will be similar to that used in the Pit 14 area (Photo 2). Rock will be excavated using a truck-shovel operation. The rock is blasted and generally removed one bench at a time. Previous mining by Luscar Sterco (1977) Ltd. in the Mynheer A region has involved 10 m (33 foot) bench heights at approximately 60 degree to 65 degree face angles. The overall slope angle in the Pit 14 overburden will be 33 degrees.

PHOTO 2



PIT 14 NORTH WALL

North wall excavated in sandstones, siltstones, and interbedded mudstones at overall angle of approximately 33° . Loading equipment working on top of coal pod. Slope has subsequently failed about 1 year after photo was taken.

The truck-shovel operation removes rock to the top of the coal, while the coal will be primarily excavated by a Marion 7450 walking dragline (Photo 3). The dragline has a 61 m (200 ft) boom and 10.7 m³ (14 yd³) coal bucket. The dragline will be located on top of the coal, which will not have to be blasted prior to excavation. The coal is either stockpiled and loaded by a front end loader or placed directly into the trucks by the dragline. The coal is extracted by the dragline located on a bench on top of the coal, therefore, no safety benches are required in the coal cut. Excavation of the coal face will be steepened to 55°. The overall slope of the ultimate pit wall is variable depending on the thickness of the coal, but generally ranges from 35 to 38 degrees. Maximum wall heights over the 1160 m (3800 ft) long pit vary between 90 to 107 meters (300 to 500 ft). The average width of the proposed Pit 13 is approximately 365 m (1200 ft).

The extraction method has several geotechnical implications, including slope geometry and life span of the pit excavation. Because the dragline will mine the coal in one pass, the time required for any one area of the pit to remain open will be minimized. The slope geometry will be such that the steeper excavation will be in the lower portion of the slope. This is favourable since no men or equipment will be operating below the steeper section of the wall. Bench scale failures may result from the overburden blasting, however, the overall mining approach is generally

PHOTO 3



MARION 7450 WALKING DRAGLINE

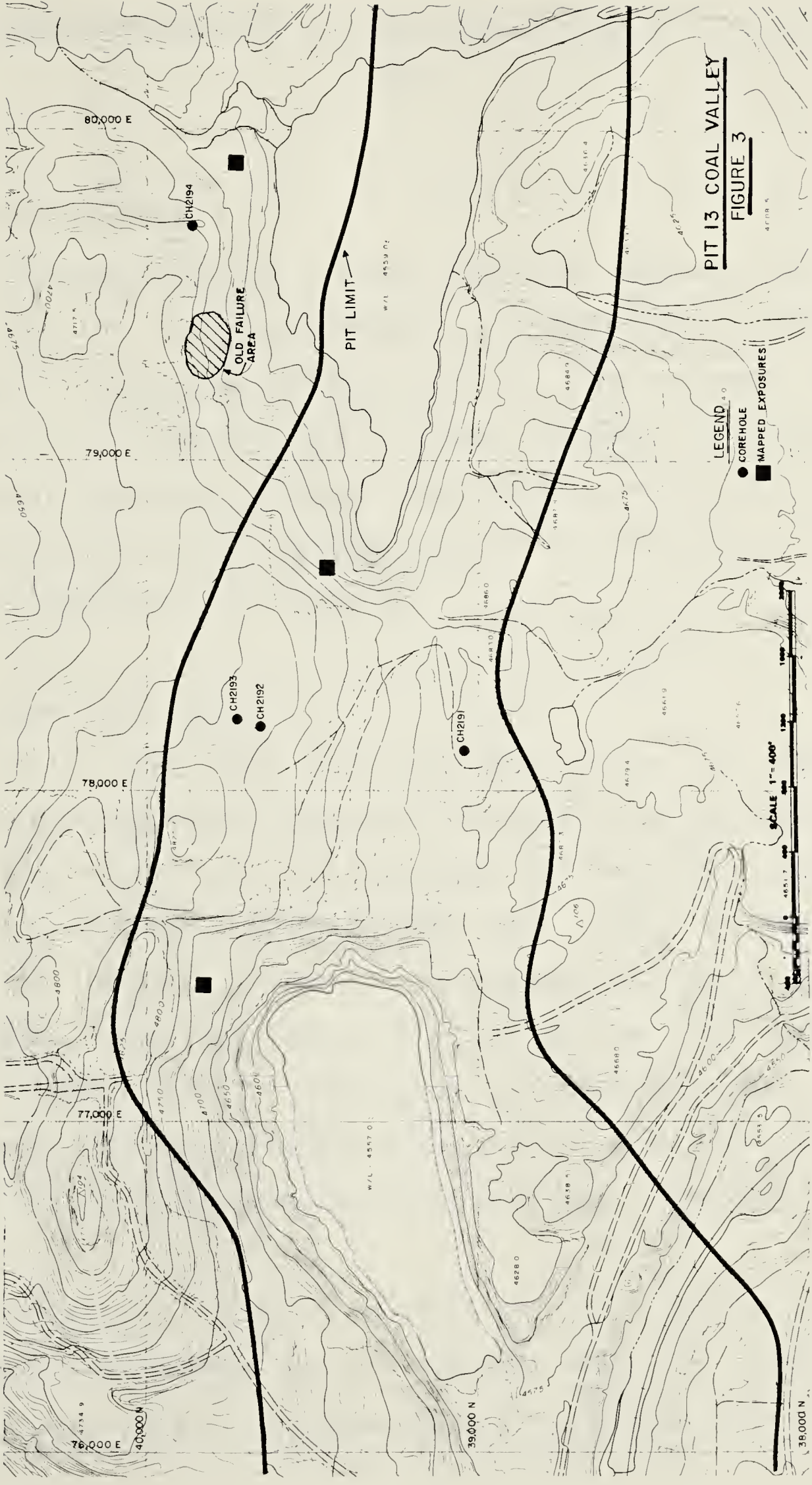
Pit 13 area in background.

favourable from a geotechnical viewpoint.

2.8 Slope Stability in Earlier Mining Operations

Although very little is known about the previous mining activities in the Pit 13 area, some information can be gained from the remnant workings. Recent drilling has revealed a small failure near Section 78400E on the north wall of the old workings (Figure 3). It appears that it is a transition zone between the fairly steep wall to the west (31°) and the shallower cut to the east (20°). The present walls of the old mine operations appear to be fairly stable, however, weathering has reduced the exterior faces of the walls to a soil-like mass. Very shallow circular failures have occurred in the soil material, especially in the west end of the Pit 13 area.

Backfilling of the old pits and the collection of water has concealed much of the geotechnical information which could have been obtained from the previous workings. The water and fill material make drilling conditions and geological mapping very difficult, obscuring the exact outline of the old pit walls.



3. Site Investigation and Detailed Geology of the Pit 13 Area

3.1 Field Program

In preparation for a slope stability analysis of the walls of Pit 13 in the Mynheer A area, a fairly extensive geological study was carried out over the proposed site. Since the north wall of Pit 13 was suspected, on the basis of overall geologic structure and face orientation, to be potentially the most unstable, most of the investigation was concentrated over that area.

3.1.1 Sources of Data

Drill logs from existing drill holes as well as borehole geophysical logs were interpreted to provide the best estimate of the local geology. This data was augmented with information obtained from the 1979 Geotechnical Drilling Program, which consisted of four vertical coreholes, totalling 450 m (1475 ft), drilled in June and July of 1979 (Table 1). Geological information of Pit 13 was also derived from a field mapping program conducted on the walls of the old mine workings and other exposures in the area.

As stated earlier in Section 2.8, most of the old surface mine workings have filled with water or have been used as waste dumps. Consequently, the depth of fill and the

location of the old pit boundaries were determined or inferred from either the Kenting Exploration Services Ltd. Pit Bottom Survey conducted in 1977 or from sections and topographic maps of the Sterling-Coal Valley Mine.

3.1.2 Corehole Program

During a two week period, from June 23 through July 8 1979, four geotechnical coreholes were completed in the Mynheer A Pit 13 area (Figure 3). The coreholes were numbered successively from 2191 through 2194. Their location and total depth is given in Table 1.

On-site drilling supervision was provided to monitor drill hole water levels, to collect rock samples, and to box the core which was subsequently taken to a temporary core shack where it was geologically logged and photographed. Bore hole logs and Geolograph records (recording drilling rates) were compiled for each hole. Geophysical logs, including Single Point Resistivity, Focussed Gamma-Gamma Density, Natural Gamma, and Motorized Arm Caliper were run immediately upon completion of each hole.

Coreholes (CH) 2191, 2192, and 2193 were drilled to a depth of 17 m (55 ft) using mud and a 22 cm (8-3/4 in) rotary bit. CH2194 was drilled in the same manner to a depth of 11.5 m (38 ft). After drilling with the large bit, a 20 cm (8 in) steel casing was installed before coring began.

CH2191 was cored to 40 m (130 ft) with a 14.3 cm (5-5/8 in) carbide insert bit and an air-water mixture for drilling

TABLE 1

GEOTECHNICAL COREHOLE PROGRAM

Corehole Number	Location		Elevation		Total Depth		Attitude
	Northing	Easting	m	ft	m	ft	
2191	39037	78129	1422	4664	116	380	Vertical
2192	39659	78189	1458	4784	120	393	Vertical
2193	39821	78218	1454	4771	108	354	Vertical
2194	39865	79700	1425	4676	106	348	Vertical

fluid. At this depth the bit was replaced by an annular discharge diamond bit. At a depth of 70 m (223 ft), mud was used for drilling fluid in order to improve circulation.

CH2192 was cored to a depth of 48 m (157 ft) using an air-water drilling fluid and the carbide insert bit. At this point the diamond bit was installed and the hole was completed.

CH2193 was cored entirely with air-water and the carbide bit.

CH2194 was cored to 23 m (74 ft) using air-water and the carbide bit, then completed with the diamond bit.

3.1.3 Drilling Rig and Core Barrel

The coring rig used for the geotechnical coring program was a Failing 1250 mounted on a 9000 Ford diesel truck. It was equipped with an air-water injector system with a 650 cfm, 250 psi compressor.

The core barrel was a 3 m (10 ft) Christiansen, triple tube consisting of an outer core barrel with a back end latching system. A 3 m (10 ft) length of 7.6 cm (3 in) Poly Vinyl Chloride (PVC) tubing was inserted into the inner barrel so that upon completion of a core run, the core could be removed intact encased in the plastic tubing. Each core run was usually kept to a maximum of 2.75 m (9 ft), to allow for axial swelling of the core.

3.1.4 Geophysical Logging

The Geophysical Logging System was built for Lexco Testing Ltd. by Canadian Arctic Survey Systems using components produced by Comprobe Inc.. The receivers, recorder, and winch are contained in a 1.5 m (5 ft) by 2.75 m (9 ft) steel-framed shed which can be mounted on either a CF-60 tracked vehicle or a four wheel drive vehicle.

The logs produced include a Natural Gamma, Focussed Gamma-Gamma Density, Single-Point Resistance and a Motorized Arm Caliper. The downhole tool is 5.4 cm (2-1/8 in) in diameter by 2.75 m (9 ft) long. A four conductor cable allows all four logs to be run simultaneously.

Although each geophysical log would produce only limited results if used separately, they become extremely useful for lithologic delineation and stratigraphic correlation when used in combination with the others. The Gamma-Gamma Density is used primarily for delineation of coal seams, while the Natural Gamma provides a useful method of determining the clay content of the Coal Valley strata. The Motorized Arm Caliper provides an indicator of shear zones, due to the tendency of the sheared rock to collapse and form what the drillers refer to as a "washout". The final log, the Single Point Resistance, is used primarily for detecting the water level in the borehole, although some work has been done on identification of water bearing zones using this tool.

3.1.5 Geological Mapping

Mapping of the Pit 13 area was comprised of Area Mapping, which entailed the walking of the exposed faces and recording dip and dip direction of the bedding, fault planes and predominant joints. Wooden stakes were placed at major bedding contacts and structural features. These were later surveyed in order to determine their coordinates and elevation.

The mapping was concentrated in three particular locations of the pit due to the limited amount of rock exposures (Figure 3). The first area was near the east end of Pit 13 on Section 79700E from 39740N to 39550N. The second location was on the walls of the test pit from 39400N to 39650N and from 78300E to 78700E. Finally, the western edge of Pit 13 was mapped along Section 77500E from 39600N to 39950N.

3.1.6 Data Limitations

Due to the topographic and structural features of the north wall, it is thought that it is potentially the most unstable slope in the proposed pit. The face contains several adverse geological structures, is geologically complex, and will have the maximum ultimate slope height in the pit. For these reasons, the corehole drill program, field mapping, and joint surveys were concentrated in this area. Three of the four holes were situated there (Figure 3). The need to direct most activity towards the north wall

limited the amount of geological data which could be collected for the other slopes in the proposed pit.

Although the structure of both the west and east ends of the pit appears to be simpler than that of the central portion, geological data is scarce. In order to adequately resolve both the wall geology and the geometry of the coal deposit in the areas, further drilling is required.

3.2 Geology of the Pit 13 Area

Pit 13 is situated on the northern limb of the Lovett River Syncline, just west of the Reco Fault Extension. The mean orientation of the bedding planes is $135^{\circ}/15^{\circ}\text{S}$ (Strike/Dip).

In the proposed pit area, and Mynheer A zone in general, the dominant geologic structure is a slightly undulating anticlinal structure. The Upper Mynheer coal has been squeezed into the crest of this fold, forming a three dimensional pod. Moving down strike in the Pit 13 area, the coal transforms from a shallow lying, elongated wedge to a high, narrow triangular structure and back to an elongated wedge.

The present geological interpretation of the Pit 13 area indicated that jointing patterns and lithologies are similar to those encountered in adjacent mining areas.

3.2.1 Geology of the South Wall

The lithology of the south wall consists of interbedded sandstones, siltstones, and mudstones. Exact stratigraphic correlations from geophysical logging techniques are difficult to determine since the wall is comprised of massive sandstones. Since continuous marker beds such as the Lower Mynheer and Bourne seams are present, it can be inferred that the stratigraphic sequence has not been interrupted laterally by faulting or folding. Bedding planes in the south wall tend to dip gently into the wall at approximately 5 to 20 degrees, although immediately above the limb of the Upper Mynheer coal pod, dips increase to 45 degrees. Near the crest of the coal pod, bedding is considerably disturbed. Vertically dipping strata and overturning are common in this region, with random minor thrust faulting (Figure 8).

3.2.2 Geology of the North Wall

Although the lithologic units are very much similar to the south wall, the geology of the north wall is structurally more complex. In most areas, a cross section through the north wall can be categorized on the basis of structure into three units. Not all units are present throughout the entire wall as the upper units have been eroded in some areas.

The lowermost unit rises approximately 46 m (150 ft) above pit bottom, and is present along the entire length of

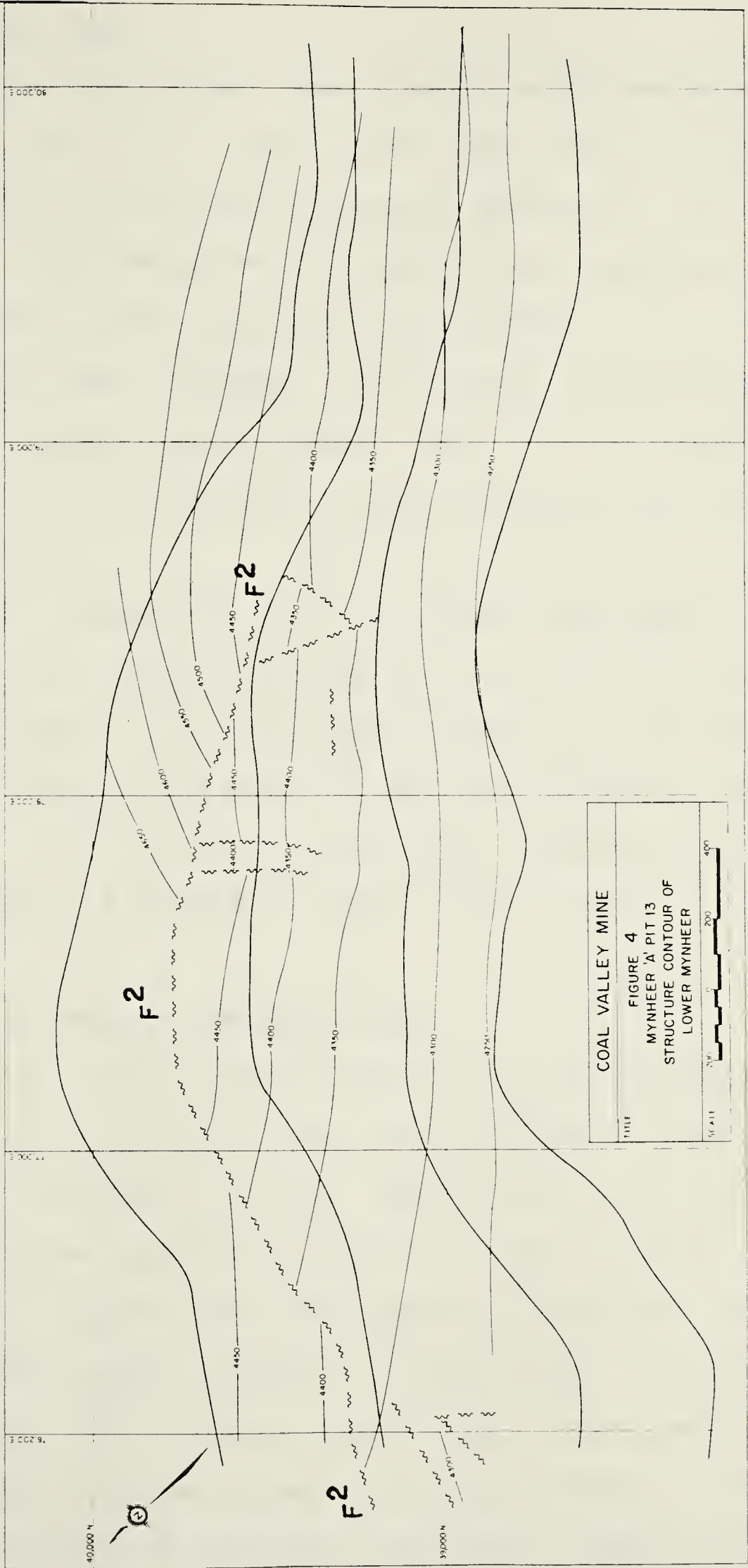
the wall. It consists of relatively uniform strata dipping into the proposed pit at 12 to 18 degrees. The top of this unit is bounded by a low angle ($<10^\circ$) thrust fault, above which lies a 30 m (100 ft) thick unit which has undergone varying degrees of deformation. Bedding dips of these strata range from horizontal to 10 degrees into the pit. Correlation of the beds is very difficult in this unit since many of the beds have been displaced by minor faults. Immediately above these relatively flat lying strata lies the uppermost unit. Mapping indicates the strata are severely folded and faulted and have undergone intense weathering. This unit is only found east of Section 78200E and above elevation 4730 (Figure 3).

3.2.3 Coal Stratigraphy

In the Coal Valley Mine there are four major coal seams, the Mynheer, Silkstone, Arbour, and Val D'Or. The Mynheer has been divided into an Upper and Lower seam while the Silkstone is comprised of the Wee and Bourne seams. The seams are separated by interbedded sandstones, siltstones, and mudstones of various thicknesses. Both the Silkstone and Mynheer seams are found in the Pit 13 area but only the Upper Mynheer will be mined in the near future. In undisturbed areas the Upper Mynheer is normally between 3 to 9 meters (10 to 30 ft) thick and comprises high volatile Bituminous C coal, interbedded with some minor thin laminations of mudstones and clay. In the Pit 13 area, it

has been tectonically deformed into a 60 to 75 meter (200 to 250 ft) thick pod. The northern edge of the pod is truncated by a steeply dipping reverse fault. Evidence of this fault is obscure in some areas, especially in the eastern section of the pit.

Below the Upper Mynheer lies a 3 to 6 meter (10 to 20 ft) thick series of interbedded coals, carbonaceous mudstones, and clays. This sequence is known as the Lower Mynheer and is very useful as a marker for geological correlation because of its lateral persistence and characteristic Natural Gamma and Focussed Gamma-Gamma Density properties. The Lower Mynheer has not undergone the same thickening process as the Upper Mynheer, but it has been faulted in some areas. The faulting seems to have no discernible influence upon the top of the Upper Mynheer coal pod, but has displaced the bottom of the pod and the Lower Mynheer by as much as 30 m (100 ft). The Lower Mynheer is also affected by the steeply dipping reverse fault which determines the northern edge of the Upper Mynheer coal pod. This fault does not disrupt the Lower Mynheer east of Section 78900E. An approximate outline of the pit boundaries and a structure contour map of the Lower Mynheer are illustrated in Figure 4.



3.2.4 Marker Beds

The most persistent and readily identifiable marker beds in the Pit 13 area are the coal seams. Of these, the Lower Mynheer is the most prominent because of its lateral continuity and characteristic geophysical signature.

Located in the south wall approximately 75 m (250 ft) above the Lower Mynheer, is the Lower Silkstone or Bourne seam. It is also a useful marker bed but is of limited value for correlation purposes since the seam is not present in the north wall.

A 1 to 3 meter (3 to 10 ft) thick conglomerate found in the north wall may also be useful for correlation purposes. It dips gently to the east at about 12° , outcropping at Section 77700E in the west and Section 78700E in the east. The unit is not easily identified by geophysical methods, but is usually recorded in the Drillers' logs.

3.2.5 Joint Sets of the North Wall

A joint survey was carried out in the uppermost unit of the north wall of Pit 13 near Section 78400E (Figure 3). A lack of exposures in the lower units and difficulty of access in other sectors limited the joint survey to this particular region. Detailed mapping procedures, such as the Line Method which permits statistical analysis and corrections for bias, were not used owing to the considerable time requirements of such methods. Instead, a random Area Mapping technique was used by mapping accessible

areas with a Clar Compass. This type of mapping is susceptible to sampling bias, which may result from joints which strike almost parallel to face being observed less frequently than those perpendicular to the face. This was hopefully minimized by using a visual selection process in an effort to take a representative sample of the jointing system. Directional bias was also reduced by mapping two mutually perpendicular faces.

A stereographic projection of the poles to the joint planes was compiled from 160 dip and dip direction values. The jointing data were subsequently contoured on Luscar Ltd.'s Hewlett Packard 3000 Computer system using the One Percent Area Method to determine the predominant jointing systems. The computer printout of the contour plot is shown in Figure 5, and indicates 3 major joint sets. Their mean orientations are listed in Table 2.

Of the three major joint sets, J-1 appears to be the most significant with respect to slope stability. Although the spacing (0.5 to 1.0 m) is slightly greater than the other two joint sets, they also appear to be more continuous. Joint planes in the J-1 jointing system exhibiting lengths of 3.0 m (10 ft) are common. The mean orientation of the J-1 system is adverse to pit wall stability, forming a possible weakness plane along the back of a potential failure block.

Calcite infilling was observed on many of the joints in all three of the joint sets, but was generally discontinuous

EQUAL AREA LOWER HEMISPHERE STEREOGRAPHIC PROJECTION



PIT 13

NORTH WALL JOINTS

PLOT OF POLES TO JOINT SYSTEMS
USING 1.0 PERCENT AREA METHOD

COAL VALLEY MINE

LEGEND:

PERCENT OF AREA

3%

4%

5%

6%

7%

FIGURE 5

TABLE 2

JOINT SETS OF THE NORTH WALL

Joint Set	Dip	Dip Direction
J-1	77°	241°
J-2	43°	288°
J-3	23°	101°
Bedding	28°	198°

and is unlikely to have a significant affect on stability of the pit walls. Owing to a lack of accessible exposures, no information is available on joint sets of the south wall.

3.2.6 Faulting in the Pit 13 Area

There are two major faults in the Pit 13 region. The first is a laterally persistent, northeast dipping thrust fault which truncates the top of the Upper Mynheer coal pod (F1 on Figure 8). The fault daylights east of Section 78500E, but re-appears in the adjacent Pit 14 area. Near Section 77400E, exposed portions of the coal pod exhibit an overturning of the bedding towards the southwest immediately below the fault. This overturning indicates that the direction of movement of the overlying beds was up-dip and towards the southwest. Such a displacement is unusual for the Mynheer A region of the mine (Figure 2) as movement along other low angle thrust faults in the area is normally towards the northeast. From the direction and amount of movement, it is deduced that the overlying beds are stratigraphically lower than the coal pod. The displacement along the fault must be in the range of several hundred meters because there is no correlation between the over-riding beds and those located in the south wall.

Associated with the low angle fault is a carbonaceous gouge varying from 0 to 30 cm (0 to 12 in) in thickness. The gouge is generally a dark grey to dirty black bentonitic material composed predominantly fine grained, friable coal

intermixed with sandy clays derived from degraded mudstones and sandstones. Cohesion of the material is low and is therefore seldom preserved in core samples due to its changing thickness and variable composition. The variable thickness and composition of the gouge also makes it difficult to recognize in geophysical logs. Examination of the material is thereby limited to relatively few exposures in the old mine workings.

The second major fault in the Pit 13 area is a northwest striking, steeply dipping reverse fault (F² on Figures 4, 7 and 8). It delineates the northern edge of the Upper Mynheer and is truncated by the overlying thrust fault. West of Section 78500E, the fault displaces the Lower Mynheer usually in the order of 15 to 30 meters (50 to 100 ft). East of this section, the Lower Mynheer is no longer affected by the fault. The eastern extent of the fault is not known, since earlier mining activities have obscured the pod outline by excavating the coal and by waste dumping.

In addition to the two major faults, there is also a series of northeast striking faults which penetrate the Lower Mynheer and lower portion of the Upper Mynheer coal pod but dissipate within the coal. There is no evidence of these faults along the top of the pod, thus making their exact location and orientation difficult to determine. The geometry of this faulting, shown in Figure 4, was interpolated from the structure contour map of the Lower Mynheer.

3.2.7 Effects of Weathering

The strata in the Pit 13 mining zone are very susceptible to weathering processes. Exposure to the elements causes visible degradation of the sandstones, siltstones, and mudstones, especially in rocks with higher carbonate or bentonite contents. Over a period of just a few months, the breakdown of the sandstone into a cohesionless sand mass has been observed in submerged core samples. More significantly from a geotechnical standpoint, is the effect of weathering upon the bentonitic mudstones, as water tends to reduce the mudstones to soft clays. The colour of the clays will lighten in accordance with the bentonite content of the original mudstone. Evidence of this weathering process has been observed both in the pit walls and in core samples. Mudstone outcrops in the old mine workings have degraded to a depth of about 45 cm (18 inches), grading with distance into the wall from a soft clay to a fractured mudstone to a cohesive mudstone. Over the last 3 years, recent exposures caused by erosion or gullying during spring runoffs have weathered to a depth of approximately 10 cm (4 in), while the original structure of the mudstone is still visible in the clay. Angular fragments and planar jointing are still present in the material which can, however, be easily molded and formed.

Inspection of old core samples, stored outdoors for several years has revealed similar effects. A 1 to 2 cm (1/2 to 3/4 in) ring of clay is present around the perimeter of

the core, while the central portion of the core is composed of a relatively cohesive mudstone.

3.3 Pit 13 Structural Sectors

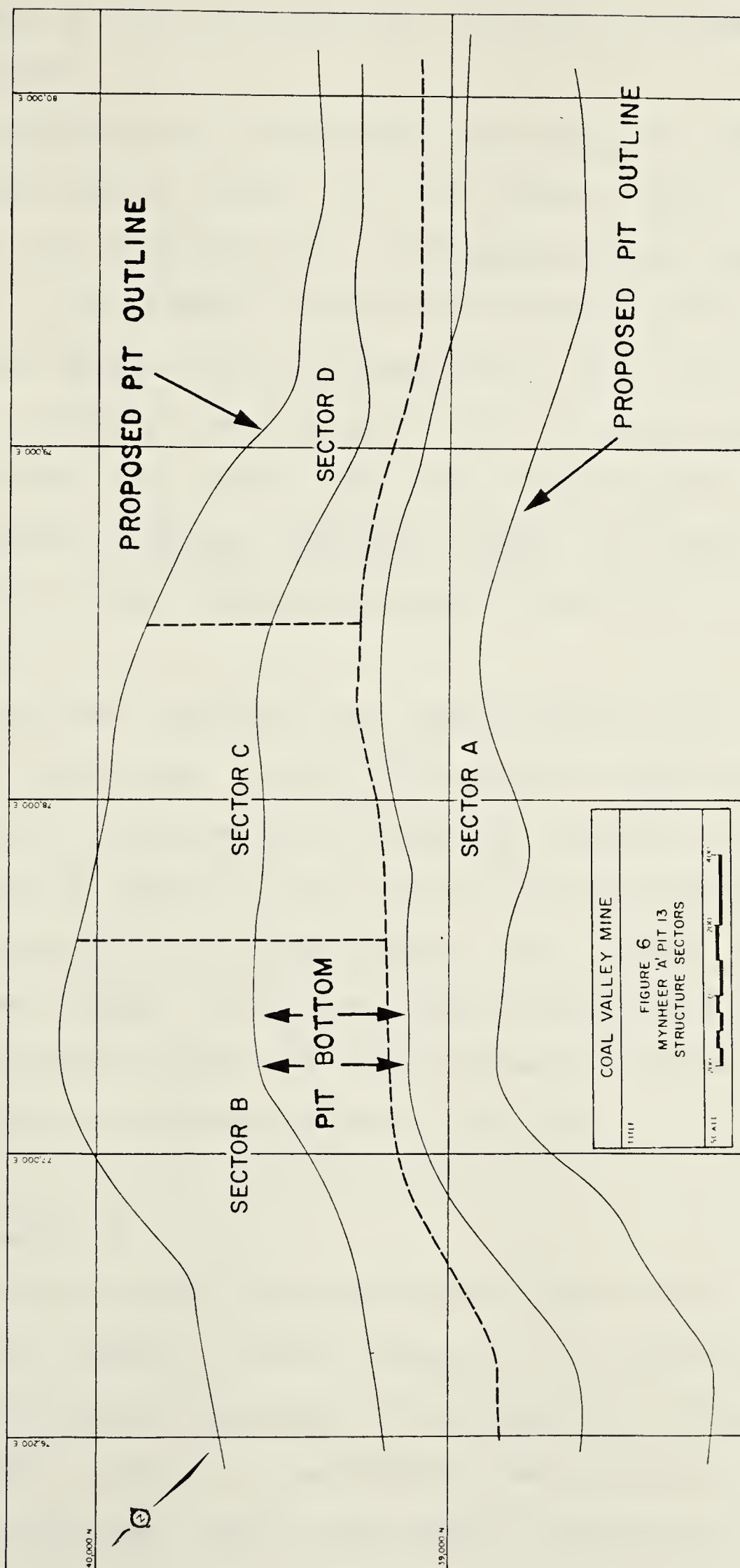
For design purposes Pit 13 has been divided into four geologically distinct sectors primarily on the basis of differences in structure. The division into sectors along the north wall was also founded on the number of the structurally distinct units as described in Section 3.2.2. As a result of differential erosion, not all of these structural units are present in each of the sectors along the north wall. A plan view of the pit area and the individual sectors is shown in Figure 6.

3.3.1 Sector A

Sector A covers the entire south wall of the pit from 76200E to 80000E, a distance of 1160 m (3800 ft)(Figure 6). The geologic structure of Sector A was described previously in Section 3.2.1.

3.3.2 Sector B

Sector B is situated in the northwest corner of Pit 13, covering the area between sections 76200E and 77600E (Figure 6). Slope heights in the proposed pit wall in this sector range from 90 to 107 meters (300 to 350 ft). The eastern boundary is an arbitrary one based on a gradual increase in



thickness of the coal pod and structural changes in the overburden.

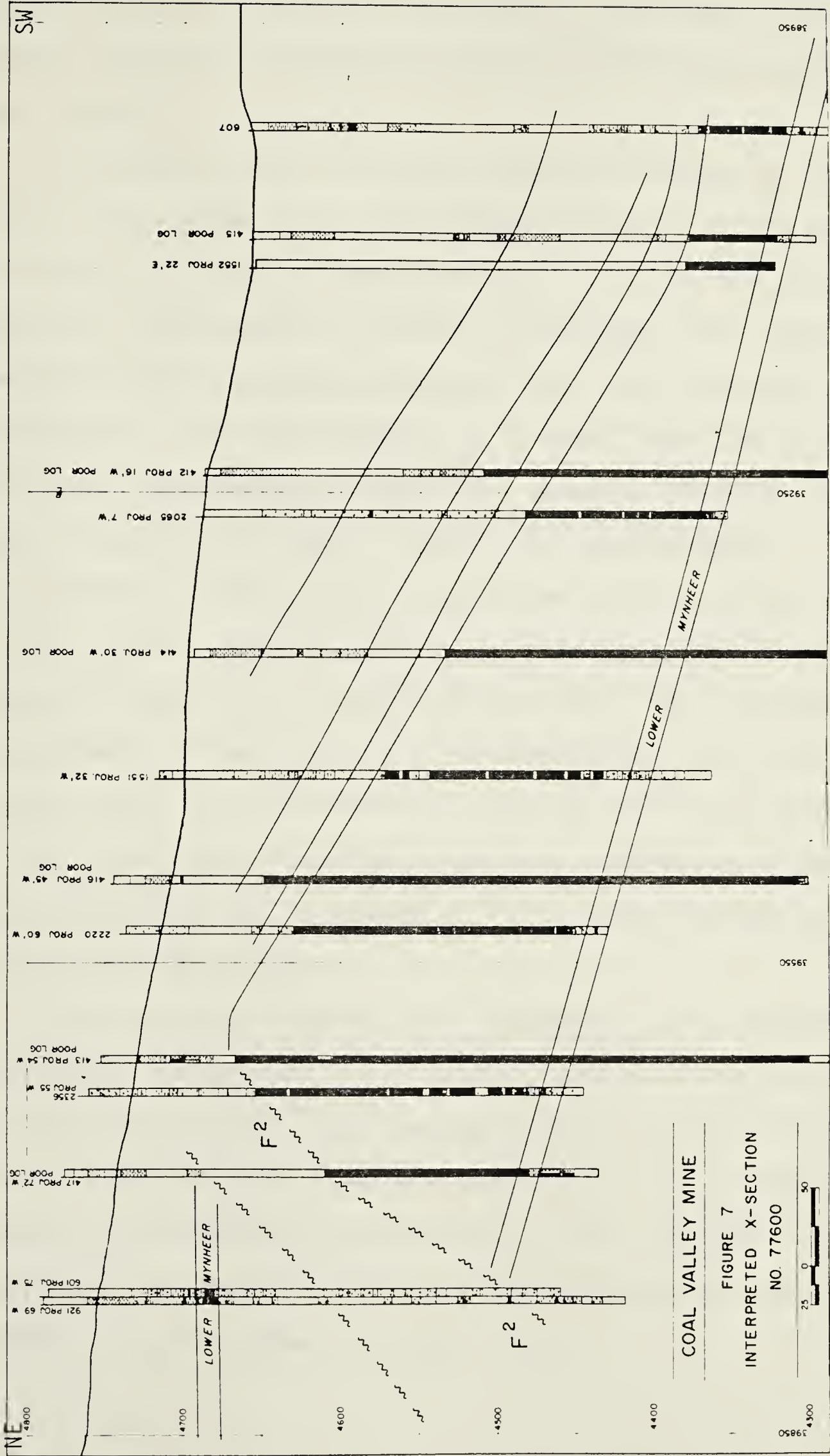
From the very limited data available, it appears that only the strata below the low angle thrust fault are present. For the most part, bedding dips at an angle of 12° to 16° into the pit. Local stratigraphic units, including the Lower Mynheer, are displaced about 15 m (50 ft) by the steeply dipping reverse fault which truncates the northern edge of the coal pod. The fault displacement increases considerably towards section 77400E to a maximum of 60 m (200 ft). A cross section through this sector is provided in Figure 7.

The Lower Mynheer and lower portion of the Upper Mynheer coal pod are also disrupted by a series of faults striking at approximately 45 degrees azimuth. Evidence of these faults appears at the western edge of the sector.

In Sector B the Upper Mynheer coal forms a slightly thickened wedge, with a maximum thickness of 60 m (200 ft) at the northern edge. The wedge gradually pinches out to the south, over a distance of 245 m (800 ft).

3.3.3 Sector C

Sector C constitutes the central portion of the north wall from 77600E to 78500E (Figure 6). The eastern boundary, similar to that of the west, is an arbitrary choice based on a gradual change in the shape of the coal pod. This sector contains the most complex geological structures of the pit.



COAL VALLEY MINE

FIGURE 7
INTERPRETED X-SECTION
NO. 77600



There is severe folding and faulting in the upper portion of the wall as well as frequent jointing and fracturing in the lower strata.

All three of the structural units discussed in Section 3.2.2. are present in this sector (Figure 8). The beds in the lowest unit dip at approximately 18° into the pit and comprise interbedded siltstones, mudstones, and sandstones. The sandstones are generally calcareous and contain coaly inclusions. The Lower Mynheer is located near the bottom of this unit. Displacement along the steeply dipping reverse fault is similar to that in Sector B, approximately 15 m (50 ft). Borehole information is more plentiful here than in any of the other sectors, thus permitting a fairly accurate determination of the location of the fault and the amount of displacement. The fault is truncated by a gently dipping reverse fault (F¹ on Figure 8), which also truncates the top of the coal pod. This fault has been removed by erosion in Sectors B and D, but evidence of it is found further east in adjacent mining areas.

The second unit above the reverse fault consist of intermixed sandstones, siltstones, and mudstones which dip at approximately 10° into the north wall. The sandstones are either severely fractured and weathered tabular deposits or randomly jointed massive sandstones. Also included in this sequence, is an 2.5 m (8 ft) thick conglomerate containing rounded to sub-rounded siliceous clasts.

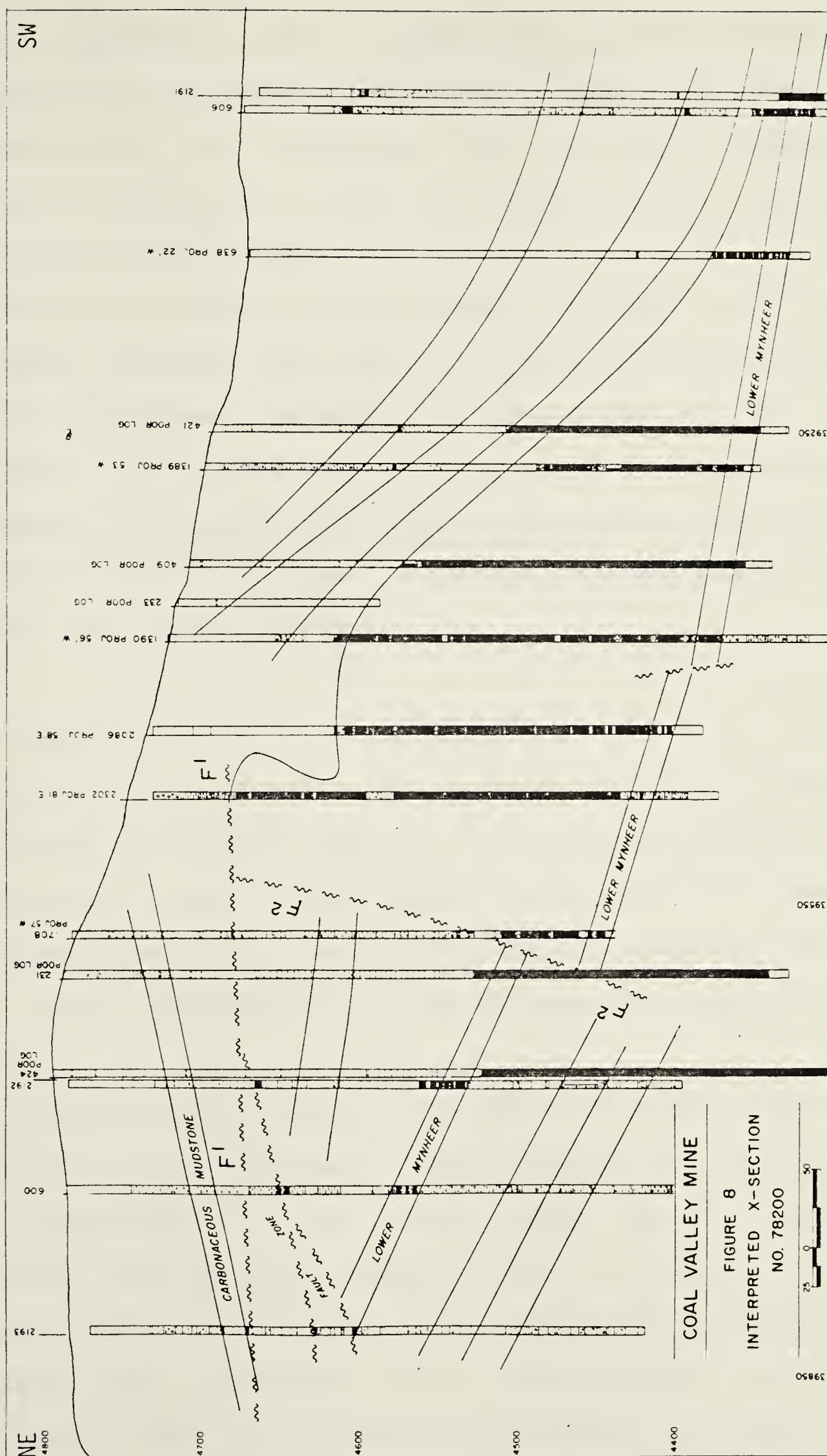


FIGURE 8
INTERPRETED X-SECTION
NO. 78200

COAL VALLEY MINE

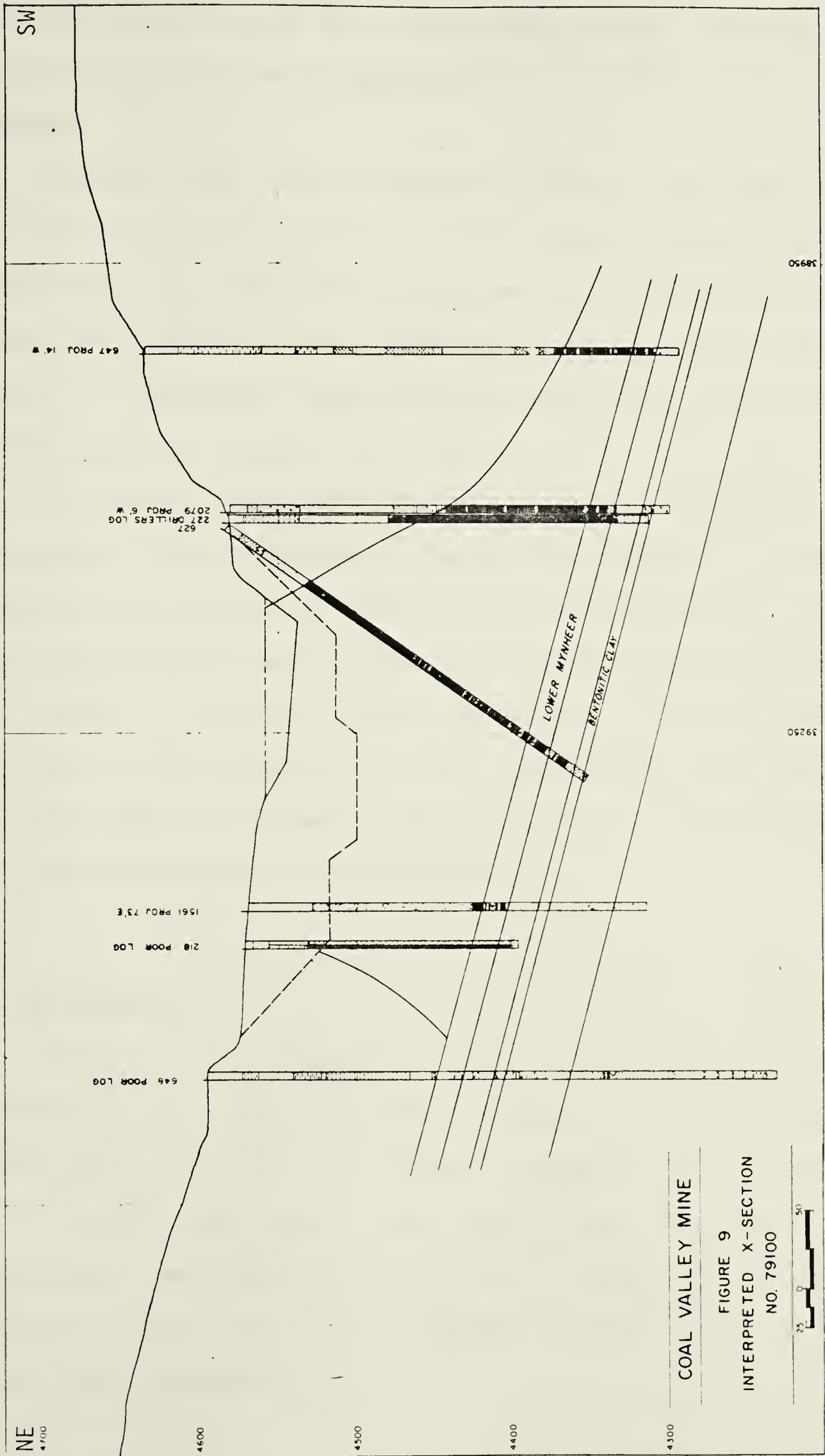
The uppermost unit, located above elevation 4730, is geologically very complex. The strata, comprised primarily of sandstones and siltstones, are extremely weathered, intensely fractured by joints and faults, and frequently overturned or drag folded.

Relative to the other two sectors in the north wall, the Upper Mynheer coal pod in Sector C has a greatly increased thickness, reaching a maximum of 90 m (300 ft). The flanks of the pod steepen to a maximum of 70 degrees and 60 degrees on the north and south sides respectively, while the overall width of the pod decreases to a minimum of 107 m (350 ft) near Section 78500E.

3.3.4 Sector D

Sector D is located in the northeast corner of the pit, from 78500E to 80000E (Figure 6). The maximum height of the proposed pit wall in this region is 75 m (250 ft). General characteristics of this sector include an elongated coal pod with little deformation of the surrounding strata (Figure 9).

The geological structure of Sector D is the simplest of any sector in the north wall. There appears to be little, if any, displacement of the Lower Mynheer due to either the northeast trending fault system or the northwest striking reverse fault. The strata are predominantly composed of mudstones and siltstones with interlayered calcareous sandstones. Only the lowermost structural unit remains in



Sector D as the upper units have been eroded. Bedding planes tend to dip relatively consistently into the pit at 11 to 13 degrees.

Towards the eastern edge of the pit the Lower Mynheer outcrops, revealing a 0.3 m (1 ft) thick clean coal seam underlain by a bentonitic mudstone and a dirty coal seam. A recent pit bottom survey indicates the old mine operations simply followed the Lower Mynheer down dip, and removed the overlying Upper Mynheer coal pod.

In Sector D the Upper Mynheer forms an elongated wedge. The extent and thickness of the northern edge is difficult to determine because of the old mine workings but it appears that the original pod reached a thickness of approximately 45 m (150 ft) and was about 150 m (500 ft) wide. Because of the water which collected in the abandoned mine workings, drilling has not been carried out in this sector to delineate the remaining coal deposit.

3.4 Groundwater

Single open standpipes were installed in each of coreholes 2192, 2193 and 2194 (Figure 3). The standpipes consisted of 3.8 cm (1.5 inches) diameter (O.D.) PVC tubing with glue-on couplings. The perforated sections of the standpipe consisted of a 3 m (10 ft) length of standard PVC tubing in which 0.25 cm (0.1 inches) wide by 5 cm (2 inches) long slots had been cut.

Installation of the standpipes began by placing an end cap on on a 3 m (10 ft) length of standard tubing. The slotted section was connected to the top of the capped length and successive lengths of tubing were added to the screening until it reached the desired depth (Table 3). The bottom, capped piece of tubing provides a sump to collect sediments and minimize plugging of the perforated section. During assembly, the piezometer is held by the couplers with a metal slip. As each length is added to the standpipe, the slip is removed and the tubing is lowered into the hole. Upon completion of the standpipe, washed pea gravel was placed in the hole around the circumference of the tubing. The piezometers were designed for measurement of the local groundwater level and were not sealed at any particular intervals with packers, bentonite, etc.

Immediately after installation, the water level in each of the piezometers was measured with a direct sensing electric probe. However, subsequent monitoring of the three standpipes has been very irregular. Data from these piezometers and from holes drilled in the adjacent Pit 14 area suggest that the groundwater table elevation is seasonably variable and ranges from 18 m to 30 m (60 to 100 ft) below grade.

A hydrogeological study was completed in the eastern end of Pit 14 in May 1979. The relevance of this data to the Pit 13 area is uncertain, however, a visual examination of the region would indicate that a number of the conclusions

TABLE 3

STANDPIPE PIEZOMETER INSTALLATIONS

Corehole Number	Depth of Screened Interval		Lithology of Screened Interval
	m	ft	
2192	61-64	200-210	Aphanitic Mudstone
2193	30-33	100-110	Silty Mudstone
2194	87-90	285-295	Silty Mudstone

for the study will prove valid for Pit 13 as well:

1. the direction of the local groundwater flow is southwest from the northwest striking ridge.
2. the permeability of the rock discontinuities is greater than that of the intact rock.
3. groundwater flow is highly dependent upon the geologic structure of the rock mass, especially attitude and spacing of joint and bedding planes.

Hydrologic characteristics of Pit 13, such as rock permeabilities, are not known.

4. Laboratory Rock Testing Program

Samples for the Pit 13 testing program consisted of 80 core samples taken from four geotechnical coreholes. Approximately 20 grab samples were also taken from outcroppings near the old mine workings.

The testing program comprised 38 moisture content determinations, 2 24-hour water absorption tests, 22 direct shear tests, 3 Atterburg Limit tests, 9 density determinations, 23 Brazilian Disc tests, 17 uniaxial compression strength tests (solid steel platens), 11 uniaxial compression strength tests (brush platens), 3 static modulus of deformation tests, 45 NCB Cone Indenter tests, and 1 triaxial compression test (at 5 confining pressures). The laboratory rock testing program was divided into two independent studies. The first study was primarily concerned with measuring or estimating the intact strength properties of Pit 13 strata. To this end, a series of Brazilian disc, uniaxial compression, and NCB Cone Indenter Tests were carried out on the sandstones, siltstones, and mudstones of the Pit 13 area. The Brazilian disc and uniaxial compression tests were performed in accordance with guidelines described in Supplement 3-1 of CANMET'S Pit Slope Manual (1977). A description of the NCB Cone Indenter and method of use are given in this Section. A summary of the test results is provided in Appendix B.

The Pit 13 strength testing program, with the exception of the NCB Cone Indenter and brush platens was typical of

most slope design test programs. The Cone Indenter was originally developed by the National Coal Board (NCB) of Britain at the Mining Research and Development Establishment (MRDE Report No. 19, 1971). The device is presently manufactured by Howard's Engineering (Derby) Co., Derby, England.

The Cone Indenter is composed of a flat metal spring solidly attached at both ends in a portal steel frame (Photo 4). Overall dimensions of the device is approximately 18 cm by 20 cm (7 by 8 in). A carbide steel point is fitted into a hollow stemmed micrometer in order to measure penetration. Deflection of the spring is measured by a dial gauge attached directly to the frame (MRDE Handbook No. 5, 1977). A rock chip not larger than 12 mm by 12 mm by 6 mm (0.5 by 0.5 by 0.25 in) is placed between the steel spring and the carbide point and the micrometer is zeroed. A predetermined force (proportional to the deflection of the spring) is applied by rotating the micrometer, and the resulting penetration of the point into the sample is measured. Corrections are made for deflection of the spring and a final penetration measurement is obtained. An indenter index number is derived by dividing the deflection of the spring at the applied force by the penetration of the carbide tip into the sample. This value, called the Cone Indenter number, is then multiplied by a correction factor to obtain the uniaxial compressive strength of the rock. The relationship developed by the National Coal Board is given

PHOTO 4



NATIONAL COAL BOARD CONE INDENTER

by:

$$\sigma_c = 24.8 \text{ CI}$$

where σ_c = uniaxial compressive strength, CI = the Cone Indenter number.

The second exception to an otherwise typical slope design strength testing program was the brush platens. The platens were originally developed by E.T. Brown and L.P. Gonano (1974) to permit testing of samples with length/diameter ratios less than 2:1. They are designed to minimize the frictional force between the material being tested and platens, thereby reducing the constraint experienced by the sample at its ends. The platens are constructed of a matrix of steel pins which are long and, therefore, flexible enough to allow expansion of the rock sample, but short enough to maintain pin stability. The brush platens manufactured for testing Coal Valley rock consisted of 0.3 cm by 0.3 cm by 5.1 cm (1/8 by 1/8 by 2 in) steel keystock held in a circular clamp (Photo 5).

The testing conducted by Brown and Gonano to evaluate their platens was performed on specimens of relatively strong, Wombeyan marble of varying lengths. Comparative tests were also carried out using solid steel platens. It was found that the increase in strength with decreasing length to diameter ratios associated with solid platens was negligible with brush platens.

The second study was concerned with measurement of the direct shear strength of the weaker strata of Pit 13, such

PHOTO 5



BRUSH PLATENS

as the coals, clays and bentonitic mudstones. For the most part, the determination of the shear strength of lithological contacts was the primary aim of the tests (e.g. coal/mudstone contact), which were conducted in a Leonard Farnell 10 cm by 10 cm (4 by 4 in) direct shear box in accordance with procedures outlined in Supplement 3-2 of CANMET'S Pit Slope Manual. In order to minimize sample disturbance, each sample was tested under increasing incremental normal loads. A typical sample would be sheared under five normal loads ranging from 75 N to 1500 N (17 to 337 lbs) at a strain rate of 0.013 mm/min (0.0005 in/min).

4.1 Corehandling and Sampling Techniques

In order to examine the core, the 7.6 cm (3 in) inner plastic tubing was opened on the drill site using an electric router and portable generator. The core was inspected for core recovery and for the selection of representative samples for testing. From the four geotechnical holes 89 samples were collected. Each sample was briefly described, measured, and the exact depth from which the sample was taken recorded.

The samples were left in the plastic tubing which was wrapped in plastic bags and inserted in 9 cm (3.5 in) PVC tubes. The ends of the tube were sealed with either plastic sampling bags and fibre tape or paraffin wax. Finally, the samples were transported to the Rock Mechanics Laboratory at

the University of Alberta and stored in a non-operating freezer. The freezer contained 5 cm (2 in) sheets of saturated foam rubber, which were placed over the samples in order to retain the specimen's natural moisture.

The remaining core from Coreholes 2191, 2193, and 2194 was placed in 1.5 m (5 ft) long wooden core boxes and geologically logged and photographed in Luscar's portable core shack at Coal Valley. The lids were then placed on the core boxes and the core was stored on site for future reference. The core from CH2192 was left in the core tubes and sealed in blasthole loading bags with fibreglass tape. These were taken with the selected samples to the University of Alberta and stored in the basement of the Chemical-Mineral Engineering Building.

4.2 Selection of Laboratory Tests

4.2.1 Strength of Intact Rock

There are several types of design tests commonly used to determine intact rock strength parameters for slope analysis purposes. The uniaxial and triaxial compressive strength tests, as well as direct tension testing are examples of design strength tests. Index testing methods used for slope design would include the Schmidt Hammer (dynamic rebound test), Point Load test, 24-hour absorption test, density tests, and water content determinations. The

major limitation of the various testing techniques for slope design purposes, is the problem of estimating the rock mass properties from the intact rock properties. There does not appear to be a simple solution to this problem, however, the intact testing does provide background information so that rock mass parameters can be more accurately estimated using judgement and experience.

The testing methods selected for the Pit 13 intact rock strength testing program included a variety of design and index tests in order to determine several of the intact rock mechanical properties. The static strength properties of the Pit 13 samples was measured using the Brazilian Disc, uniaxial compression, triaxial compression, and NCB Cone Indenter testing, while the affects of stress on the Coal Valley strata was examined by the static modulus of deformation test. Physical properties of the intact rock were examined using density and moisture content determinations as well as the 24-hour absorption test.

The strength properties of the intact Coal Valley strata could have been determined using standard tests, such as the uniaxial compressive test, direct tension, or triaxial compressive test. However, these tests require expensive testing machines and tedious and sometimes difficult sample preparation. For this reason, index tests such as the Point Load test and Brazilian Disc test are often used to indirectly estimate the strength properties of a rock. According to Broch and Franklin (1972), an index

test is a test which is quick, accurate, and inexpensive enough to be used for classification and mapping applications. In order to fulfill these requirements, the index test must be simple and reproducible.

Although the Point Load test is more tolerant of structural irregularities in rock specimens than line load tests such as the Brazilian Disc, experience with many rocks in the Coal Valley area has shown that Point Load index testing has not given accurate and reproducible results. It is believed that this test is not suited to the soft rock encountered in the study area because the failure mechanism in these rocks may differ from that assumed for analysing the test data. Failure of soft rocks in the Point Load test often occurs by crushing of the rock under the conical end points, whereas the assumed failure mechanism involves propagation of a tensile fracture from the centre of the specimen towards the conical end points.

In an attempt to acquire a suitable strength index test for the Coal Valley area, it was decided to evaluate the NCB Cone Indenter. Cone Indenter tests were conducted on mudstone, siltstone, and sandstone core samples taken immediately adjacent to uniaxial compressive specimens in order to correlate the results of the two tests. During this stage of the testing program, however, it was found that a sufficient number of uniaxial compressive specimens could not be obtained for the correlation purposes.

Several attempts to obtain smaller diameter specimens by under-coring the 6.6 cm (2.6 inch) diameter core using both water and air as lubricants were unsuccessful, even when the core was set in plaster. The difficulty in preparing Coal Valley core samples of adequate length to conduct standard uniaxial compression tests with length/diameter ratios of 2:1 to 3:1 led to the construction and trial of brush platens.

4.2.2 Strength of Discontinuities

In order to determine the shear strength of the Pit 13 Strata a series of direct shear tests were conducted on a variety of samples. The shear properties of the softer rocks and clays in the Pit 13 area are very significant to the stability of the pit walls. This is especially true of the north wall where the Lower Mynheer, underlying the coal pod, has an average dip of 12 to 18 degrees into the pit. The bottom portion of the Lower Mynheer is composed of a 0.3 m to 0.6 m (1 to 2 foot) thick, clean coal seam overlain by interbedded bentonitic mudstones, making the sequence a critical factor in the stability of the proposed pit wall. Formation of even a very thin clay layer along the coal-mudstone contact would form a potential failure surface that would affect the stability of the entire wall.

Owing to the significance of the strata shear strength properties, tests were performed both on the mudstone and clay core samples. Further tests were conducted on grab

samples containing either clay-coal, mudstone-coal, or clay-mudstone contacts. Finally, an artificial "sandwich" was constructed of a coal and mudstone sample separated by a 1 cm (0.4 inch) clay infilling, to simulate the possible occurrence of a very thin clay layer along a coal-mudstone contact in the Lower Mynheer.

4.3 Results of the Testing Program

Results of the testing program indicate that the rocks in Pit 13 can be categorized into 6 different types based on their strength properties. For the most part, these categories mirror the five major lithological divisions of coals, clays, mudstones, siltstones, and sandstones. A further division was made between the light grey to brown bentonitic mudstones and the dark grey to green mudstones. The latter group is often chloritic and generally grades to siltstone or sandstone. The strength properties of these darker mudstones are generally higher than those of the bentonitic variety. For this study, the darker mudstones have been classified as silty mudstones, although this may be somewhat of a misnomer, since the name is founded on their strength properties and their mechanical similarities to true siltstones rather than by grain size. On the basis of the strength properties of the available samples, a similar division of the siltstones and sandstones was not observed. Any further sub-division of the rock types was not

attempted due to the limited volume of test data.

The strength properties of the strata sampled in Pit 13 were found to be similar to those obtained in earlier testing of rock samples from adjoining pits. As a result, much of the data obtained from this study may be used for design analysis of future mine development in areas of similar lithologies. An average sample description and detailed record of the test data for each lithologic unit is provided in Appendix B.

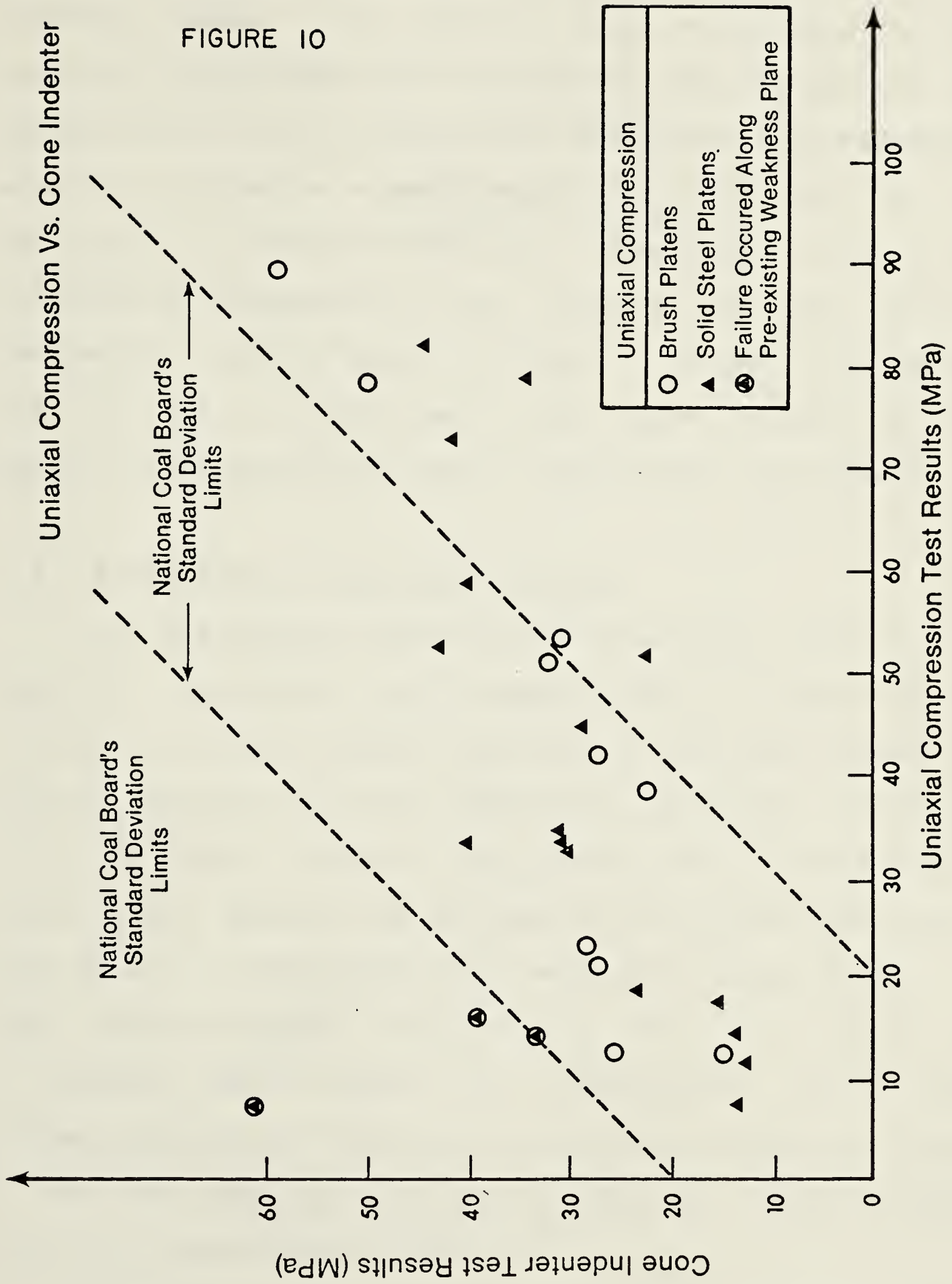
4.3.1 Evaluation of the Cone Indenter

On the basis of the limited amount of work carried out on the NCB Cone Indenter during this study, two tentative conclusions were drawn:

1. Results from the Cone Indenter are reproducible; eg. repeated tests on the same specimen generally produced results within 10% of each other.
2. The Cone Indenter results correlated reasonably closely to the actual uniaxial compressive strength results, but did not follow the correlation developed by the National Coal Board.

Figure 10 shows the National Coal Board's relationship and actual test results from compression testing of Coal Valley samples. Only 60% of the data points fit within the limits of one standard deviation about the NCB line.

A linear regression was conducted on the Pit 13 data, resulting in a best fit line given by the expression:



$$\sigma_c = 45.3 \text{ CI} - 15.9$$

where σ_c = uniaxial compressive strength, CI = the Cone Indenter number. The standard error of estimate for this relation is ± 13.3 MPa. The correlation coefficient of the regression is +0.85. It should be noted that this regression equation is based on a small amount of data and is only applicable to strata in the Coal Valley area. A plot of the relationship between the Cone Indenter and the uniaxial compression test is shown in Figure 11. A best fit line for the test data is illustrated in the figure, as well as the general relationship derived by the National Coal Board.

4.3.2 Evaluation of the Brush Platens

In a preliminary evaluation of the brush platens, two separate approaches were attempted. The first approach was to test artificial plaster specimens of varying lengths, but having identical uniaxial compressive strengths. Twenty 5.4 cm (2.126 inches) diameter core samples were drilled from a large block poured from a single mix of plaster and water. Five uniaxial compression tests were carried out on each of four length/diameter ratios; 2:1, 1:1, 0.5:1, 0.25:1. The 2:1 samples were tested with conventional, solid steel platens. Results of these tests are given in Table 4. A plot of the mean compressive strengths for each length/diameter ratio is illustrated in Figure 12.

In order to analyse the testing data, a comparison of means test was conducted using Student's t test (Neville and

CONE INDENTER NUMBER VS. UNIAXIAL COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH FOR COAL VALLEY SAMPLES

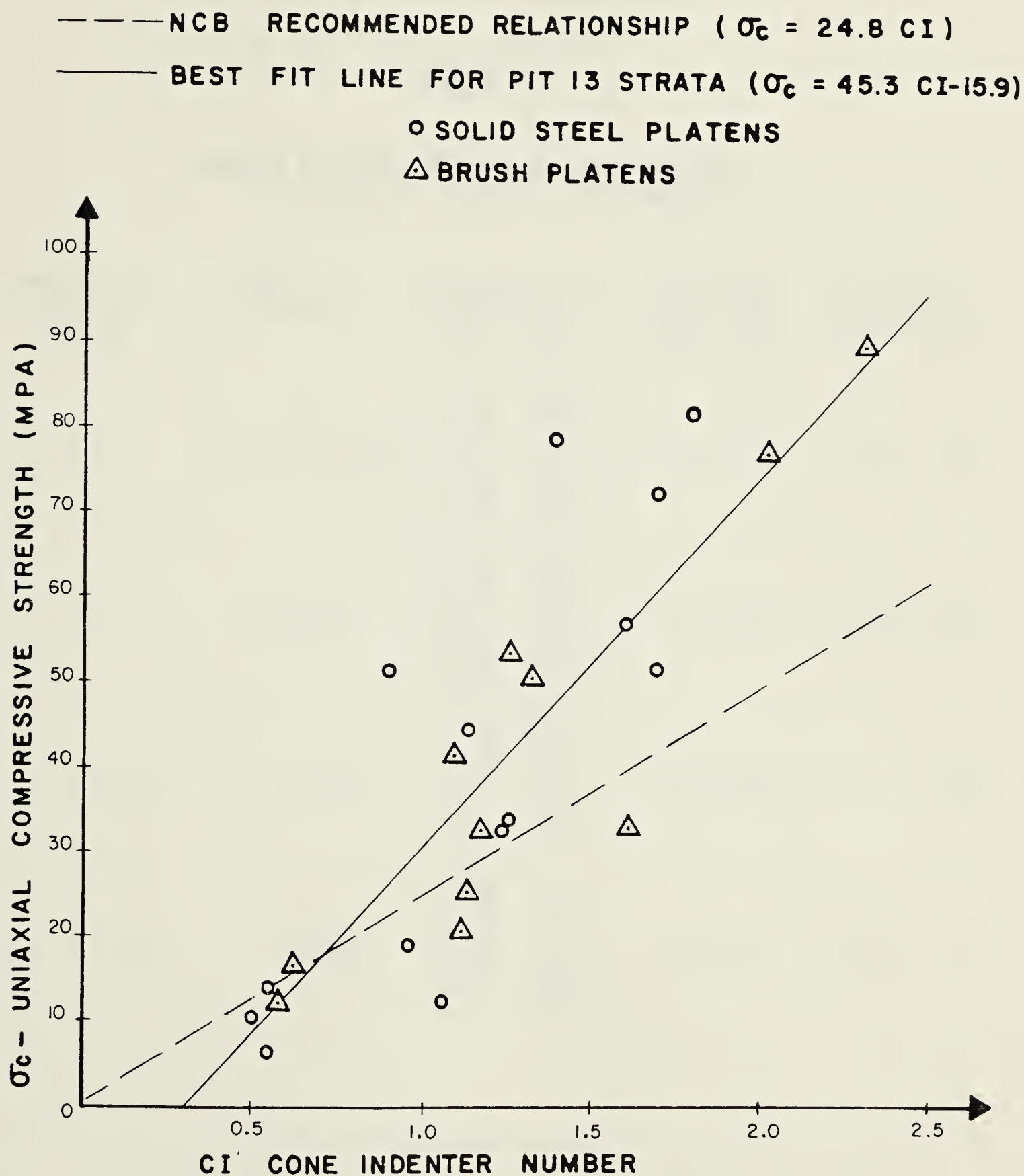


FIGURE II

TABLE 4

BRUSH PLATEN UNIAXIAL COMPRESSION
TESTING OF PLASTER SPECIMENS

Length to Diameter Ratio	Type of Platens	Compressive Strength		Average Strength		Standard Deviation	
		MPa	psi	MPa	psi	MPa	psi
2.0	solid steel	3.09	448	2.66	386	0.30	43
		2.60	377				
		2.35	341				
		2.45	356				
		2.80	406				
1.0	brush	3.16	458	3.01	436	0.45	65
		2.97	431				
		3.41	495				
		2.26	328				
		3.24	470				
0.5	brush	2.83	411	2.65	384	0.19	28
		2.39	347				
		2.56	372				
		2.61	379				
		2.84	412				
0.25	brush	1.89	274	2.14	311	0.16	23
		2.23	323				
		2.30	333				
		2.21	321				
		2.10	304				

UNIAXIAL COMPRESSIVE STRENGTHS
OF
PLASTER SPECIMENS WITH VARYING
LENGTH / DIAMETER RATIOS

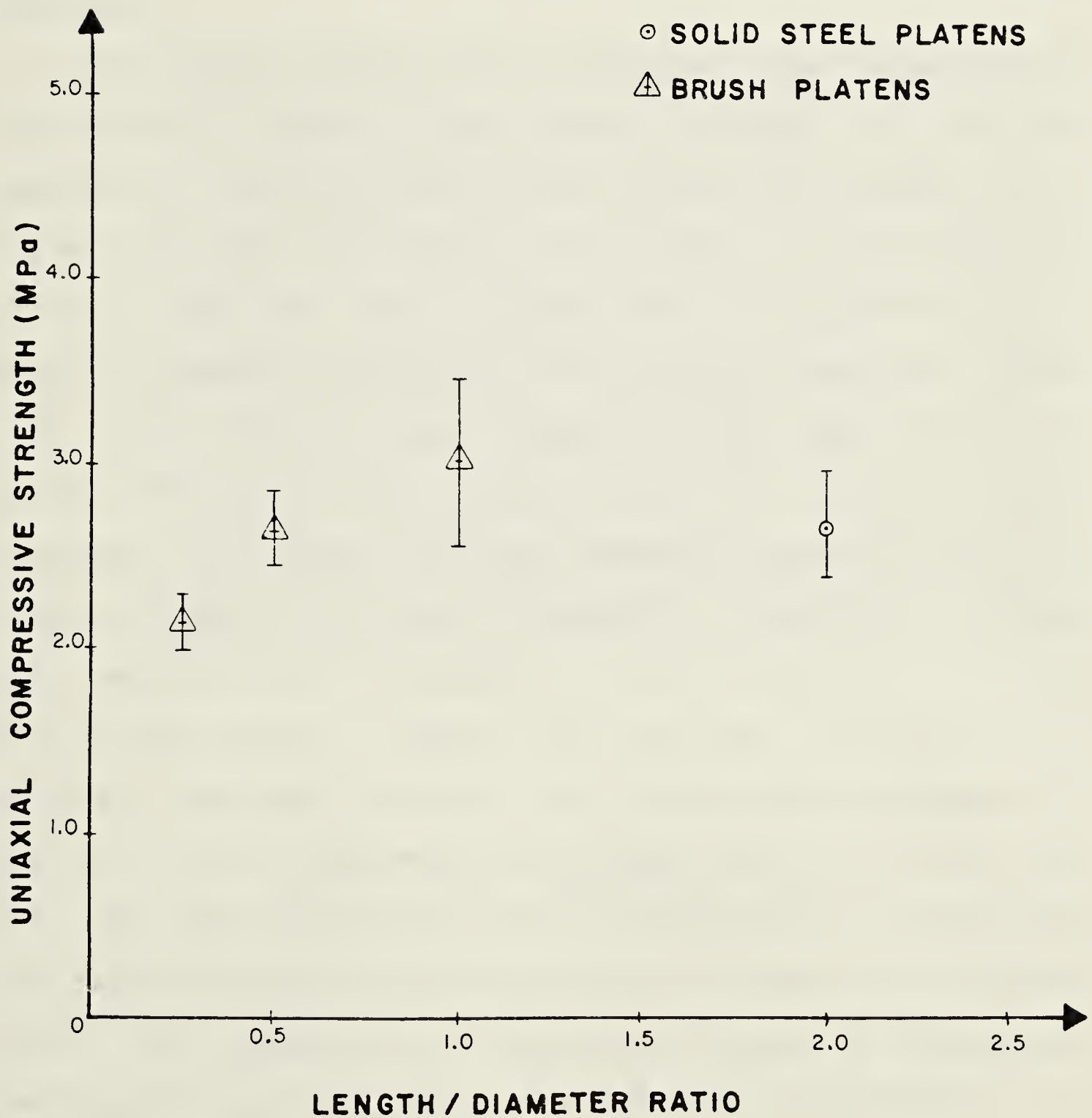


FIGURE 12

Kennedy, 1964) to a 5 percent significance level. Results of the t test indicated no significant difference between the 2:1 and 1:1 ratios as well as between the 2:1 and 0.5:1 ratios. A significant difference was found, however, between the 2:1 and 0.25:1 samples. Further research is necessary in order to produce more conclusive results with plaster specimens.

The second method for assessing the brush platens consisted of testing rock samples adjacent to uniaxial compressive specimens which were tested with standard solid platens and comparing results. The number of tests conducted in this way was very limited due to the difficulty in obtaining samples from core. Examination of specimens tested with brush platens did, however, reveal some interesting points. The angle to the core axis of the failure planes averaged 83 degrees, as the specimens appeared to fail in tension (Photo 6). It was not possible to determine whether the tensile crack propagated from the centre or from the ends of the sample. A typical failure plane inclination in uniaxial specimens tested with solid platens averaged 70° and for triaxial specimens the average angle of failure was 64° . The observed failure plane configuration is consistent with other work done with brush platens (Brown and Gonano, 1974). The formation of end cones, common in compression testing with solid platens, was completely eliminated.

PHOTO 6



BRUSH PLATEN TESTING SPECIMENS

4.3.3 Further Application of the Cone Indenter

The NCB Cone Indenter has potential for a variety of purposes. For example, Stimpson and Ross-Brown (1976) used point load index testing for estimating the cohesive strength of a randomly jointed rock mass. It is suggested that the Cone Indenter could be applied in a similar manner at Coal Valley during the feasibility stage of a geotechnical investigation.

The Cone Indenter has also been used to predict the cuttability of rock by tunnelling machines (McFeat-Smith, 1977). McFeat-Smith suggests that the cutting action of drag-pick tools is predominantly an indentation action and that a relationship exists between the cone indenter hardness and the performance of tunnelling machines employing drag-pick tools.

In addition, Hoek and Brown (1980) have suggested that a simple index test for predicting the uniaxial compressive strength of a rock may be used to estimate triaxial strength envelopes with an empirical strength criterion. The cone indenter index would be particularly useful for this purpose, as accuracy would increase with use. The Cone Indenter could also be used at the exploration stage to correlate and map rock units of similar strengths. The index may also prove valuable in blasting and drilling by providing an estimation of the rock "blastability" and "drillability".

5. Pit 13 Slope Stability Analysis

5.1 Slope Analysis Methods

Two of the most common analysis methods used for slope stability studies are the Stress-Strain Design Method and the Limiting Equilibrium Method. Other design approaches which may be used alone or in conjunction with the Stress-Strain or Limiting Equilibrium Methods, include the Engineering Rock Classification, Experience, Physical Modeling, and Inverse Methods (Stimpson, 1979).

Perhaps the most popular Stress-Strain Design Method used for slope stability purposes is the Finite Element Model. It is generally more versatile than other methods such as the Dynamic Relaxation and Face Element Approach. The major limitation of the Stress-Strain Design Methods, however, is that they are not applicable to large displacement problems. Owing to the magnitude of displacements typically associated with Coal Valley slope movements, it was thought that this type of design method would not be appropriate for the Pit 13 study.

5.1.1 Limit Equilibrium Analysis Methods

The analysis method chosen for this study was the Limiting Equilibrium Model. There are several Limit Equilibrium models which can be used for slope stability analysis including the Friction Circle, Method of Slices,

Generalised and Simplified Janbu, Spencer, and Morgenstern-Price (Chowdhury, 1978). Each of these methods has particular features which may or may not be appropriate for any given stability study.

The Friction Circle method is only suitable for homogeneous deposits. However, where some inaccuracies can be tolerated, it may be applied to non-homogeneous materials. Since it is one of the simplest methods it is often used for slopes in which failures are not critical. Probable situations in which the Friction Circle method would be applied includes; strip mine hangingwalls which are composed of tills and clays, or spoil piles consisting of soils or badly broken rock. The Friction Circle method can also be used for pit walls in broken or badly weathered rock which acts in a soil-like manner, as well as for embankments in homogeneous soils.

The Method of Slices is generally applied to non-homogeneous soils only if a circular failure surface is expected. The inter-slice forces are ignored, thereby reducing the number of calculations necessary to derive a solution. Errors often arise if the failure surface has a steep negative slope near the toe. As a result, the method of slices is generally used for long slopes in stratified deposits.

Where slopes are likely to have high pore water pressures, the Janbu Method may be appropriate. Inter-slice forces are assumed and it is suitable for both total and

effective stress analyses of soil and rock slopes. This method is used for excavation of cuts in soil or shattered rock, since other methods which do not take into account effective stresses would generate large errors. It may also be applied to potential slip surfaces of arbitrary shape.

The Spencer method is essentially an intermediate stage between the Janbu and the Morgenstern-Price methods. It assumes parallel inter-slice forces giving fairly accurate results with a limited amount of input. The use of a computer is desirable as hand calculations become very time consuming even for simple slope geometries. The Spencer method was specifically designed for embankment stability problems, but may be used for all types of circular analyses.

The Morgenstern-Price is the most versatile method as it satisfies both force and moment equilibrium (Chowdhury, 1978). It is applicable to failure surfaces of arbitrary shape and arbitrary boundary conditions, but the use of a computer is essential. Since the output is only as good as the input, an extensive testing and monitoring system is required to warrant the use of this method. The Morgenster-Price method is generally used in situations where slope stability problems are critical.

5.1.1.1 Selection of Analysis Method

Determination of which method of limiting equilibrium analysis to use depends upon several factors such as the

homogeneity and strength properties of the slope material, expected shape of the failure surface, groundwater conditions, stratification of slope materials, and location of the potential slip plane relative to the slope face (Chowdhury, 1978). There are also several ancillary factors which affect the selection, including the degree of accuracy required, money and time allotted to the analysis, as well as the availability of computer programs, computer time, and qualified people to operate the program. For the Pit 13 area it was essential that whatever model was used it must be able to handle arbitrary shaped failure surfaces in rock slopes.

For the purposes of this study it was decided to use Janbu's Simplified Method and the Morgenstern-Price Method. Each of these analyses divides the slope into a series of slices, can be used for arbitrary-shaped failure surfaces, and is suitable for total and effective stress analyses of soil and rock slopes.

The Simplified Janbu Method does not require a digital computer as the analysis can be conducted on a hand calculator if necessary. However, a computerized version was used during this study. The more rigorous Morgenstern-Price Method was adopted in order to provide a means of comparison with results from the Simplified Janbu Method. A digital computer is mandatory for the Morgenstern-Price method and considerable expertise is required to use the method reliably and obtain valid results. Interpretation of the

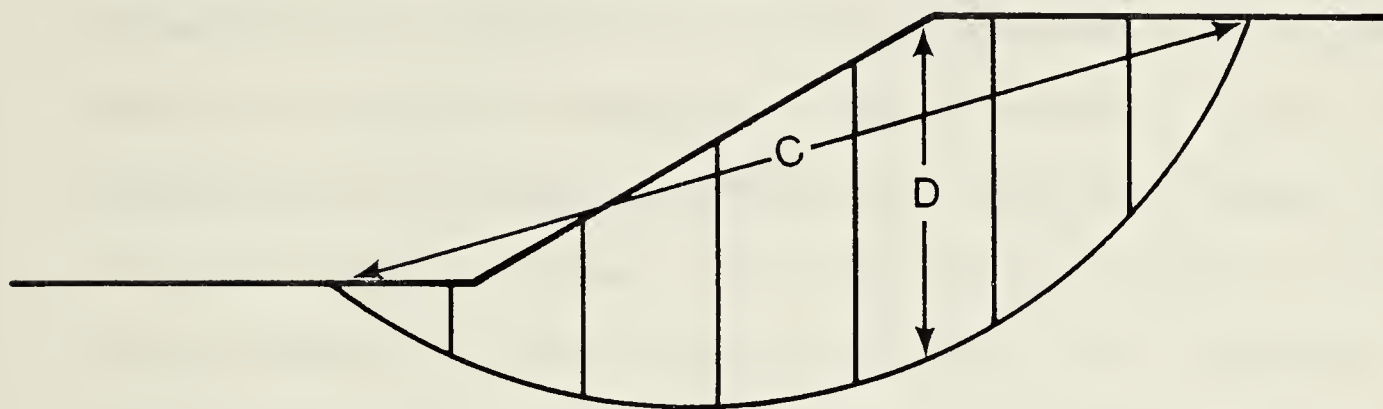
results obtained from the Morgenstern-Price Method can be difficult, and the acceptability of the solution must be checked.

5.1.1.2 Simplified Janbu Method

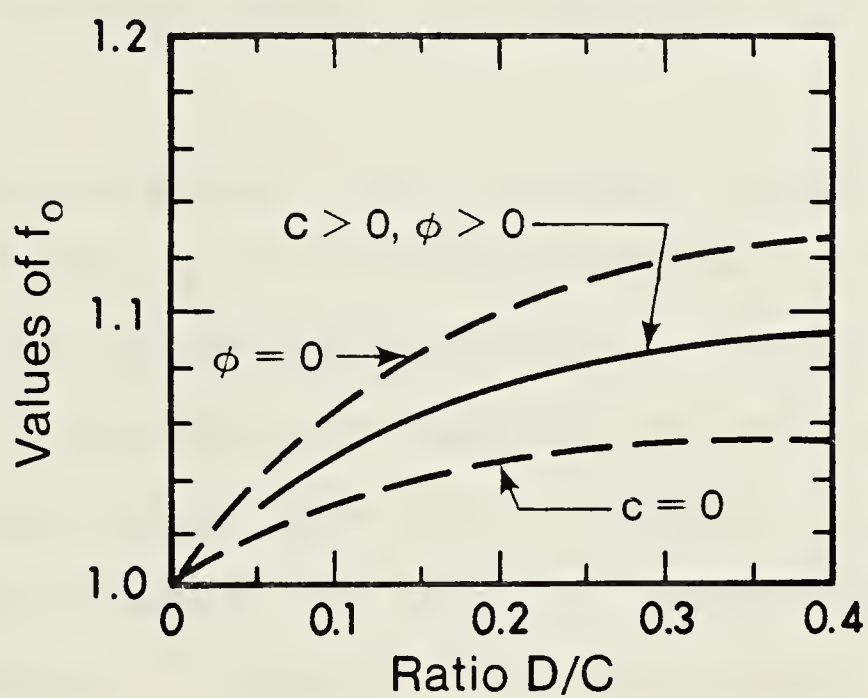
The version of the Simplified Janbu Method employed in this study is available in the Slope-II Computer Program. Slope-II is a commercial computer program package developed by Professor D.G. Fredlund and others at the University of Saskatchewan and includes both Janbu's Generalized and Simplified Methods. Janbu's Generalized Method defines a particular location at which the interslice forces act in order to make the analysis determinant. These interslice forces are replaced by a correction factor in Janbu's Simplified Method. The correction factor is dependent upon the shape of the slip surface and the strength parameters of the slope material. The relationship between these factors is shown in Figure 13.

Care should be taken when using the Slope II version of Janbu's Simplified Method to ensure that the correction factor chosen by the program is correct. The graph from which the correction factor is chosen (Figure 13) has three lines plotted on it. The top and bottom dashed lines are proposed by Janbu, depending upon the slope material shear strength parameters. However, the center line is used in the Slope II analysis, regardless of the shear strength parameters. The discrepancy between correction factors is

Correction Factors for Janbu's Simplified Method



"D" Distance Used in Slope - II Program



Janbu's Simplified Method Correction Factor, f_o

(After Slope - II, Slope Stability Analysis Users Manual)

FIGURE 13

greater for analyses conducted in cohesionless slope materials. It is further exaggerated because the D value used in the Slope II package is taken as the vertical distance from the slope crest to the failure plane, rather than the perpendicular distance from the slope face as proposed in Janbu's original analysis. As a result, the D/C ratio assumed by the Slope II version is slightly larger than the correct value. Since the correction factor is directly proportional to the overall Factor of Safety, these variations in the Slope II program can generate a substantial error, especially in designs involving deep seated failure planes in materials with little or no cohesion.

Upon selection of the proper correction factors, the overall Factor of Safety of the failure surface is easily calculated as convergence is quite rapid (Chowdhury, 1978). The Factor of Safety in this analysis can be defined as the factor by which the shear strength parameters must be reduced in order to satisfy conditions of limiting equilibrium. It should also be noted that the Slope-II program requires all failure surfaces to be represented by slip circles. However, failure may be forced along a weakness plane in the Slope-II version of Janbu's Simplified Method by designating the underlying rock's strength parameters as extremely large.

5.1.1.3 Morgenstern-Price Method

The version of the Morgenstern-Price analysis used in this study was obtained from the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Alberta. The analysis is rendered statically determinant by assuming a relationship between the effective normal thrust and the shear force acting on a vertical interface. It should be noted that not all versions use the effective side stress assumption but instead are expressed in terms of total stresses.

The relationship between the effective normal and shear interslice forces is given by a function selected by the user which defines the variation of these forces throughout the potential sliding mass (Documentation of Limit Equilibrium Analysis of Slope Stability by Morgenstern-Price Method). The value of the side force function for each slice is interpolated by the program. The interpolation is derived from values assigned to selected points along the failure surface. This is referred to as a specified side force function although other types of functions may be assumed by other programs. The types of functions most often used includes constant, linear, half-sine, clipped-sine, or trapezoidal.

For most cases, the specified function type is started with all values constant and equal to one. This implies parallel inter-slice forces and is generally satisfactory (Chowdhury, 1978). Special cases, such as slopes containing high water pressures, may require different side force

function assumptions in order for the Method to produce acceptable results.

The solutions obtained from the Morgenstern-Price Method must be checked to see if they are physically feasible. There must be a reasonable distribution of the normal stresses acting on each potential failure surface. A reasonable distribution is obtained by choosing an appropriate side force function.

Chowdhury (1978) summarized some general guidelines for determining admissible solutions with the Morgenstern-Price Method:

1. The interslice boundaries must not contain effective tensile stresses. This requirement may not have to be rigorously applied near the crest of the slope.
2. The local shear strength or failure criterion must not be reached within the potential failure mass.

Chowdhury (1978) also states that these guidelines need not be as strictly adhered to in the case of rock slopes.

The solutions obtained using the Morgenstern-Price Method are not unique, but the variations in the overall Factor of Safety is not significant. In some cases, solutions which do not satisfy the admissibility criterion may still provide valid results. Consequently, discretion is required in determining the acceptability of the solutions.

5.2 Determination of Rock Mass Strength Parameters

Experience elsewhere in the Mynheer A mining zone has shown that failures in the proposed Pit 13 walls will probably occur in a deep seated block failure. Shallow seated, circular slip failures do occur in the study area, but only on the badly weathered walls of the old mine workings. It is unlikely that such failures will occur during the predicted life span of Pit 13. In order to accurately model the deep seated block failures by means of the Simplified Janbu or Morgenstern-Price Methods, the strength properties of both the rock mass and rock discontinuities are required.

5.2.1 Estimating Rock Mass and Discontinuity Strength

Perhaps the single most critical factor in slope stability analyses is the estimation of the rock mass and discontinuity strengths. The accuracy of the estimation may be increased by laboratory testing, in situ testing, and back analysis of slope failures. However, the final selection of strength parameters is still subject to uncertainty due to sampling biases, testing inaccuracies, undetected geological features, weakness planes, etc.

There are a number of approaches used to estimate the rock mass strength parameters required for rock slope design purposes, such as the Geomechanics Classification and the Norwegian Geotechnical Institute (NGI) Classification (Q System). The Geomechanics Classification was developed in

South Africa by Bieniawski and is concerned with six separate parameters: (Barton, 1976)

1. Uniaxial compressive strength of the intact rock material.
2. Rock quality designation (RQD).
3. Joint spacing.
4. Condition of joints.
5. Groundwater conditions.
6. Joint orientation.

The NGI or Q System Classification was developed in Norway by Barton and is also concerned with six parameters: (Barton, 1976)

1. RQD.
2. Joint set number.
3. Joint roughness number.
4. Joint alteration number.
5. Joint water reduction factor.
6. Stress reduction factor.

The six parameters of the NGI Classification are used to give a rough estimate of relative block size, inter-block shear strength, and active stress. The one parameter common to both classification systems is the rock quality designation number.

While both classification systems are essentially a weighting process, it is recommended (Bieniawski, 1976) that classification approaches should be used in conjunction with other systems rather than relying on a single system. Other

classification systems which may be used to cross-check the findings of either of the above systems includes the Wickham concept, chiefly used for steel support design, and Stimpson and Ross-Brown's system of estimating the cohesive strength of randomly jointed rock masses. (Stimpson and Ross-Brown, 1979).

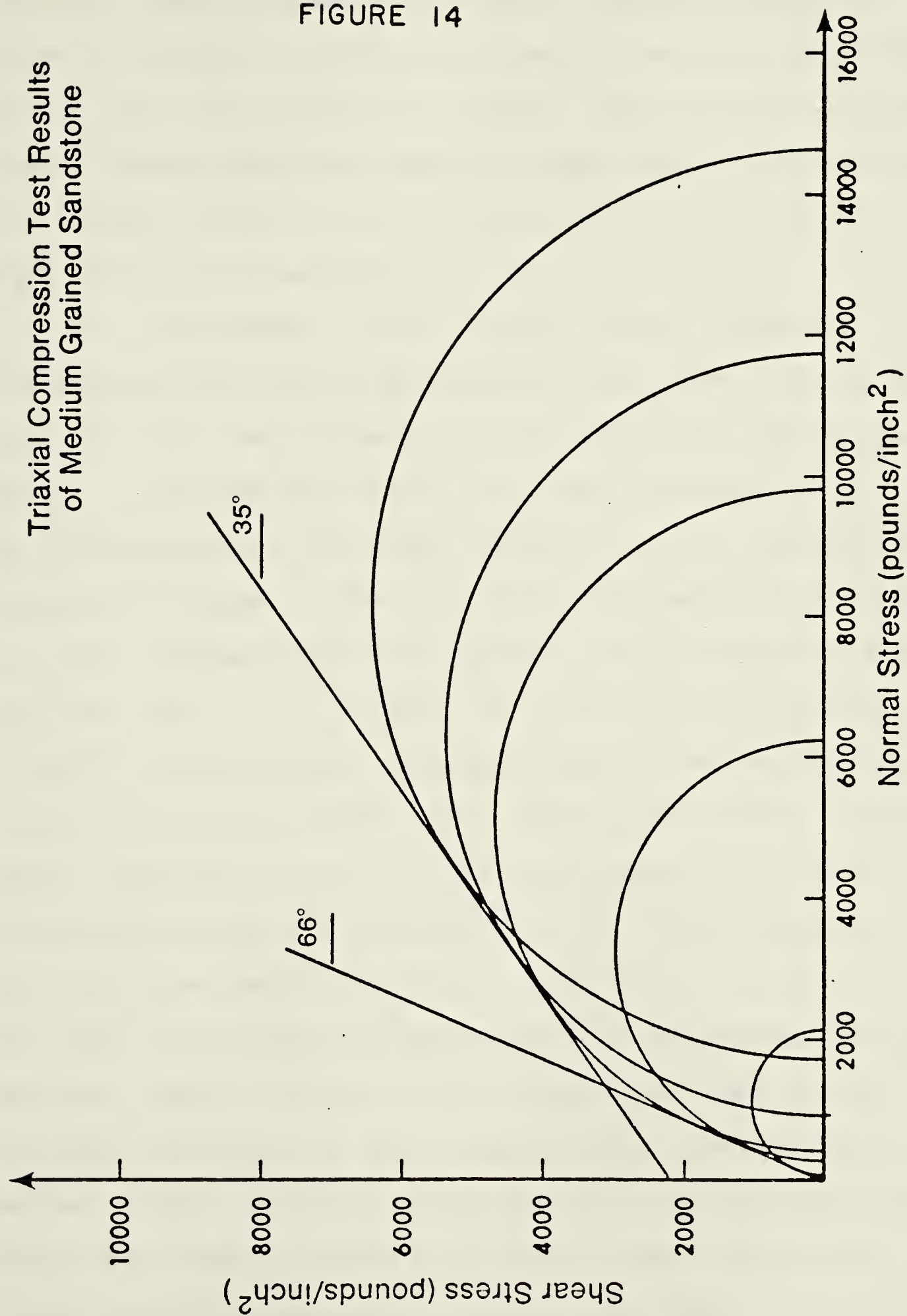
5.2.2 Selection of Strengths for Coal Valley Stability Analysis

Because of its importance to the stability of the proposed pit walls, the determination of the internal friction angle of the rock mass materials was a major concern of the study. Various laboratory testing techniques, including direct shear testing of the weaker units as well as of discontinuities, and triaxial compression testing of intact rock specimens were conducted to assist in determining the shear strength parameters of the rock mass.

The triaxial testing of intact Coal Valley sandstone samples produced a curved Mohr envelope, varying from 66° to 35° over a range of confining pressures of 0 to 12.1 MPa (1750 psi) (Figure 14). It is thought that the curved failure envelope is a result of the fact that at lower confining pressures stresses are not sufficient to shear through rock irregularities and thus a higher "interlocking" friction angle results. At higher pressures shearing occurs through the intact specimen, and a lower internal friction angle is derived. Hoek and Brown (1980) suggest that the friction

Triaxial Compression Test Results
of Medium Grained Sandstone

FIGURE 14



angle will vary with normal stress levels and that the friction angle parameters should be calculated for each slice in a stability analysis. However, owing to the limited height of the proposed pit walls, the variation in normal stress between the crest and the lower portions of the slope will have little or no affect on the effective friction angle of the rock material.

In accordance with Hoek and Brown's (1980) recommendations concerning slope designs, the friction angle derived from low pressure testing should be applied during the Pit 13 design due to the low normal stresses which will be encountered in the slope. However, visual examination of previous failures in the Pit 13 area indicates that shearing of the stronger rock units occurs along discontinuities in the rock mass. It is thought that these discontinuities are a result of much higher stresses than are presently incurred in the study area, and for this reason the internal friction angle derived from high confining pressure testing was used in the slope design. This decision was also based on the fact that the use of the interlocking friction angle in both the Simplified Janbu and Morgenstern-Price Methods predicted shallow seated failure planes rather than deep seated block failures. In order to more accurately simulate the deep seated block failures experienced in the Mynheer A mining zone, the lower internal friction angle resulting from higher pressure compression testing was used.

In order to estimate a value for rock mass cohesion of the slope materials, a back analysis and sensitivity analysis was conducted on a failure zone in the adjacent Pit 14 mining area (Photo 2). The back analysis was completed using the Simplified Janbu Limiting Equilibrium Method. The slope geometry, structural geology, and assumed groundwater conditions in the failure zone are illustrated in Figure 15. The material directly above the failure surface was assumed to be sandstone. A range of values of cohesion was inserted into the limiting equilibrium analysis and the overall factor of safety determined. A graph of the relationship between cohesion and overall Factor of Safety is plotted in Figure 16. With a friction angle of 35° , the cohesion required to give a factor of safety of 1.0 is 0.040 MPa (900 lb/ft²).

The same technique was attempted on a stable area immediately adjacent to the failed sector, and the analysis indicated that the wall was stable even when the material was assumed to have no cohesion. As a result, no lower bound was found for the rock mass cohesion.

For the stability analysis of Pit 13, a cohesion value of 0.040 MPa (900 lb/ft²) was used for the sandstone. This is the upper bound for cohesion determined from the back analysis. It should be noted that for the analysis the entire strata sequence was assumed to be composed of sandstone but in reality there are interbedded siltstones and silty mudstones above the Lower Mynheer. However, since

Pit 14
North Wall
Failure Area
Back Analysis

FIGURE 15

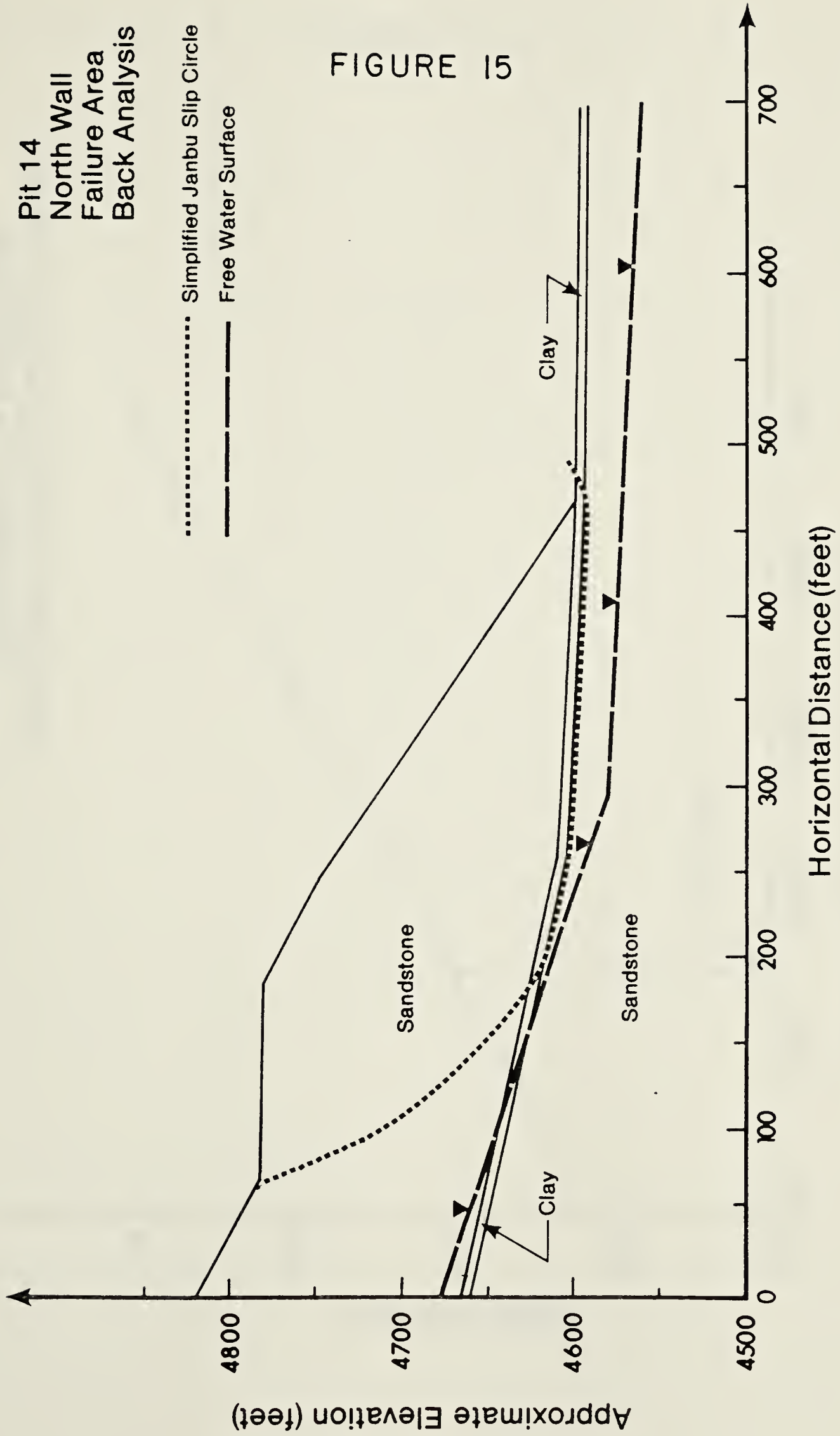
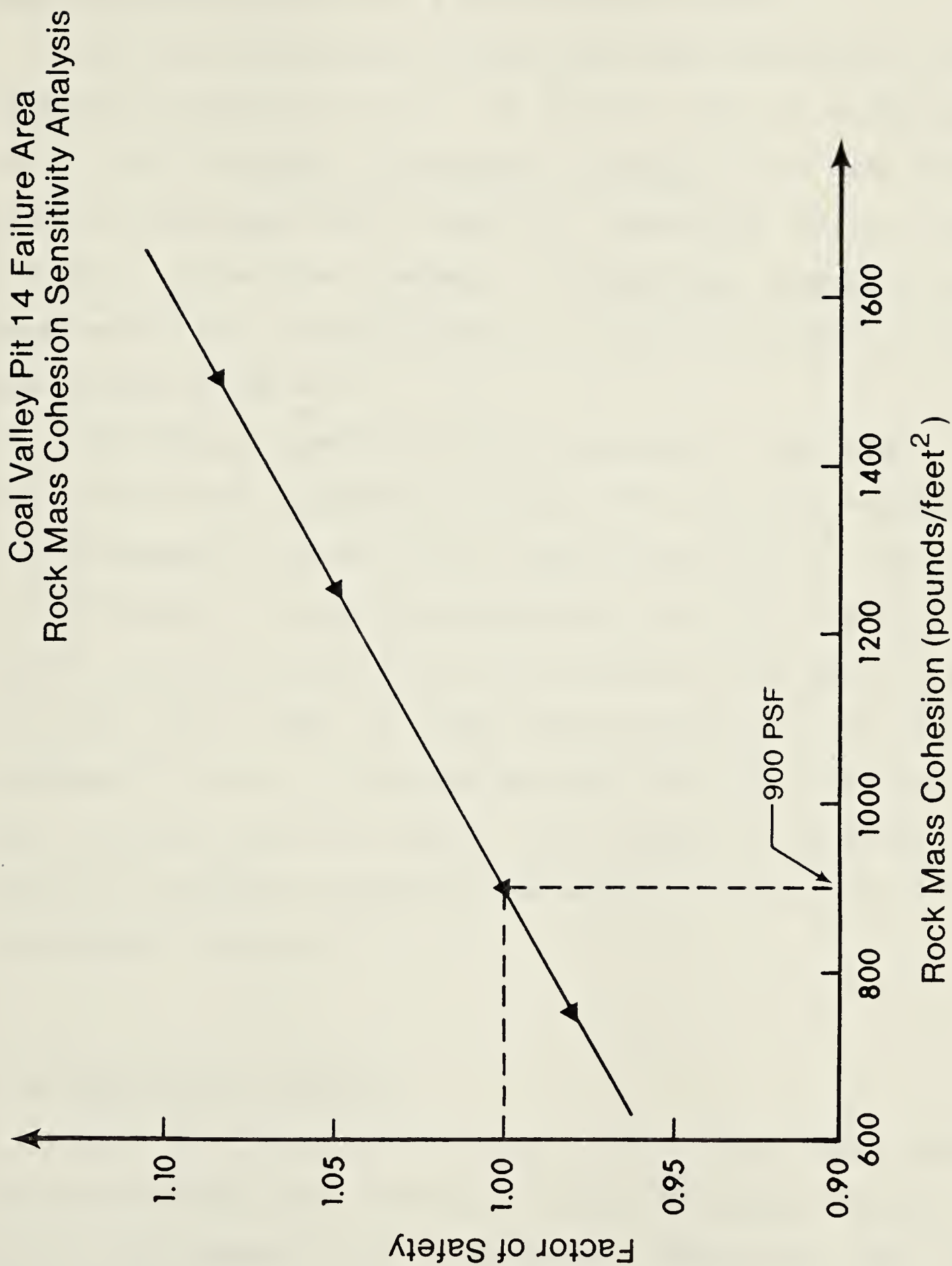


FIGURE 16



the sandstone had the highest friction angle of any of the materials tested, the cohesion value determined from the back analysis would be of a conservative nature.

For final estimation of the rock mass properties it was decided to separate the Pit 13 strata into 9 individual units. The strength properties inserted into the final stability analyses were a result of laboratory testing, back analysis, literature reviews, engineering judgement, and experience. The values assigned to each lithological unit are listed in Table 5.

Groundwater conditions were selected on the basis of the data from piezometers 2192, 2193, and 2194 augmented with piezometric levels from holes recently drilled for installation of slope inclinometers in the Pit 14 area. The general conclusions derived from the dewatering study in Pit 14 were also used in the determination of the Pit 13 piezometric levels. It should be noted that any increase in the phreatic surface above that assumed in the stability analysis would have adverse consequences on the stability of the overall pit walls.

5.3 Comparison of Results

Both the Morgenstern-Price and Simplified Janbu Analysis Methods were conducted in each Geological Sector in Pit 13. The geometry and groundwater conditions used for each Sector are illustrated in Figures 17 through 20.

TABLE 5

ROCK MASS STRENGTH PARAMETERS

Lithology	Unit Weight		Effective Cohesion		Effective Friction Angle ¹ degrees
	kg/m ³	lb/ft ³	MPa	lb/ft ²	
Bentonitic Clay	1922	120	0.0	0.0	8.5
Bentonitic Mudstone	1922	120	0.0	0.0	20.5
Silty Mudstone	2002	125	.036	800	32.0
Siltstone	2002	125	.038	800	34.0
Sandstone	2082	130	.040	900	35.0
Lower Mynheer Coal Seam	1442	90	0.0	0.0	10.5
Upper Mynheer Coal Seam	1442	90	.014	300	30.0
Fault Zone (Broken Siltstone)	2002	125	0.0	0.0	25.0
Interlayered Mudstone-Siltstone	2002	125	.036	800	33.0

¹Taken parallel to bedding.

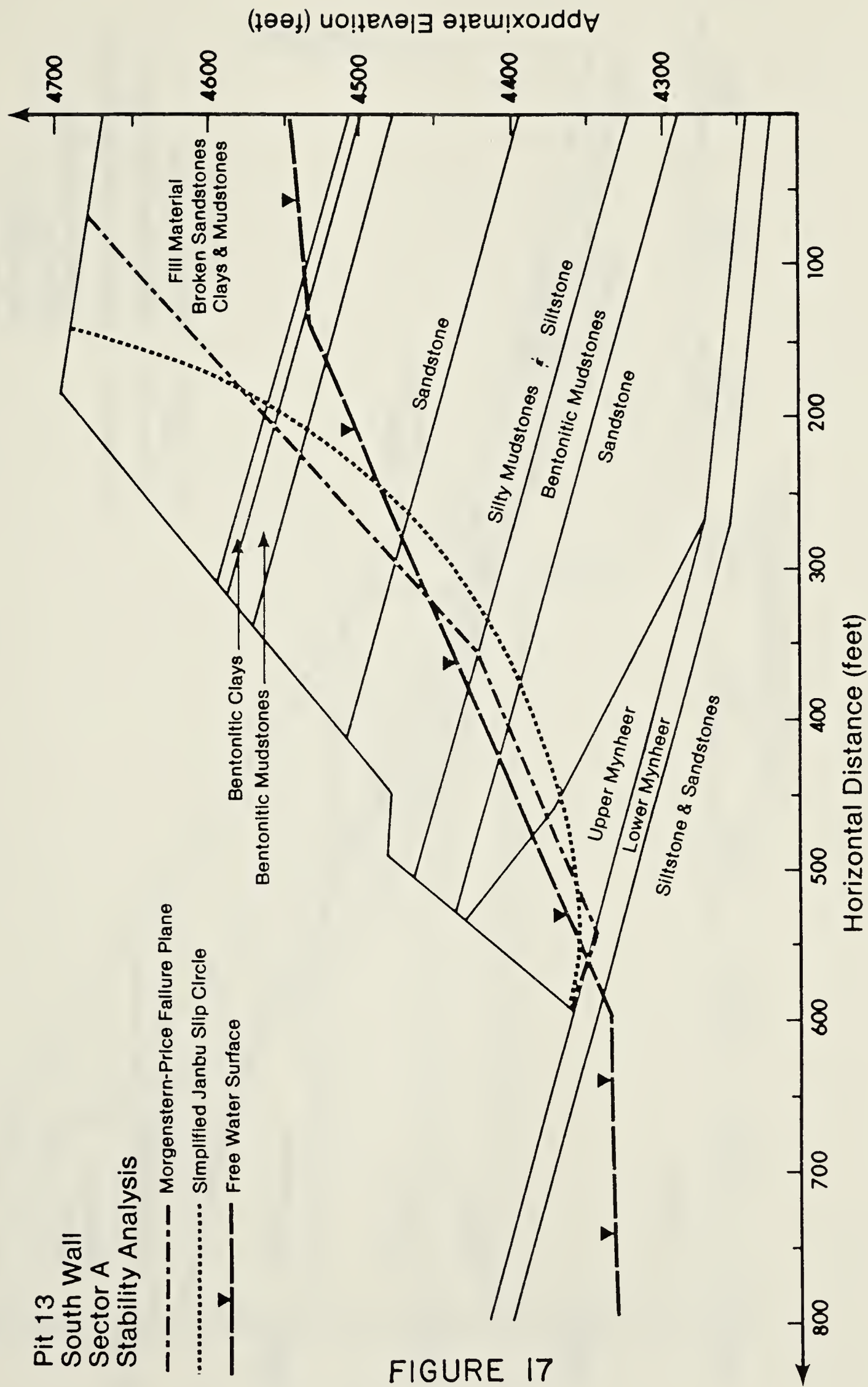
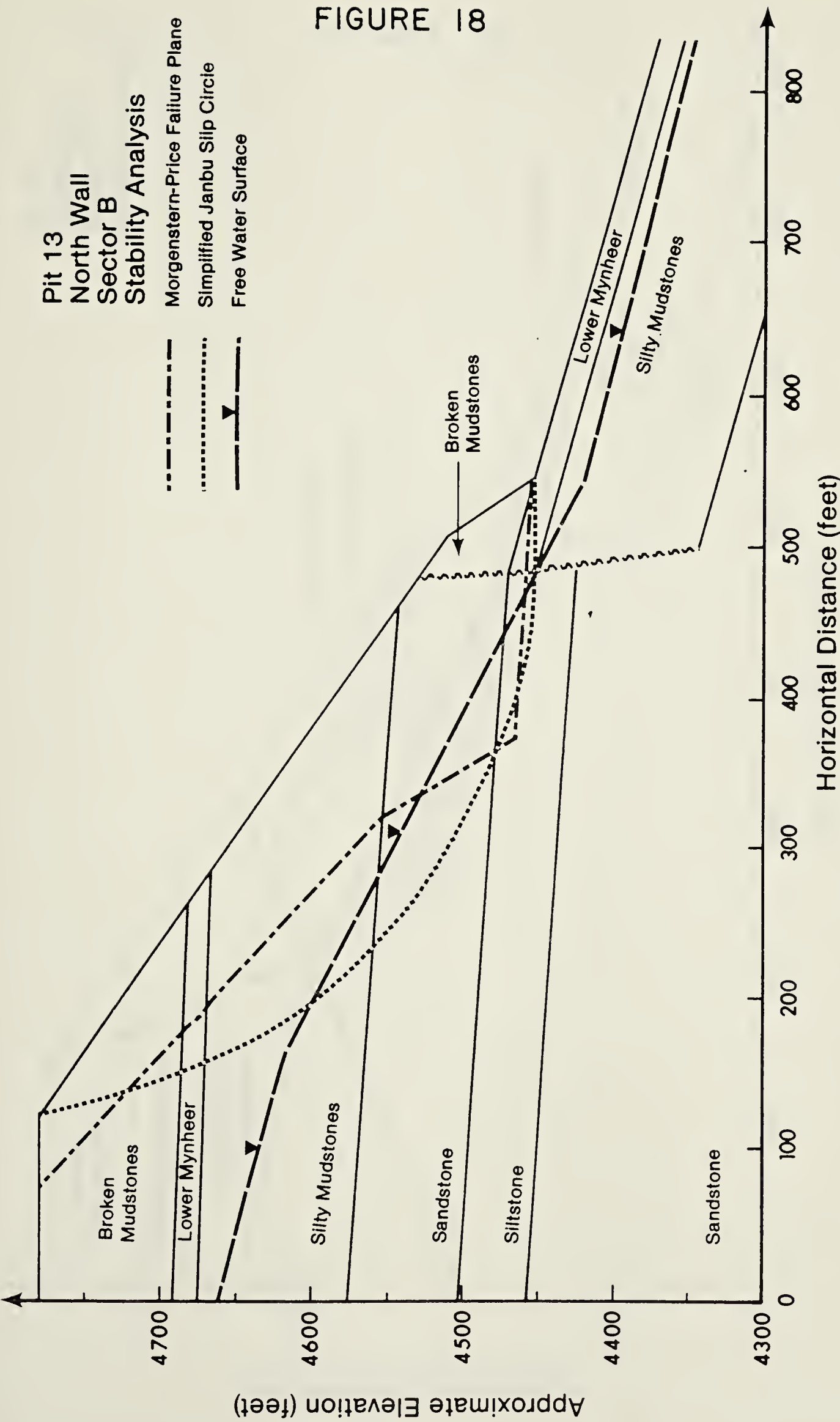


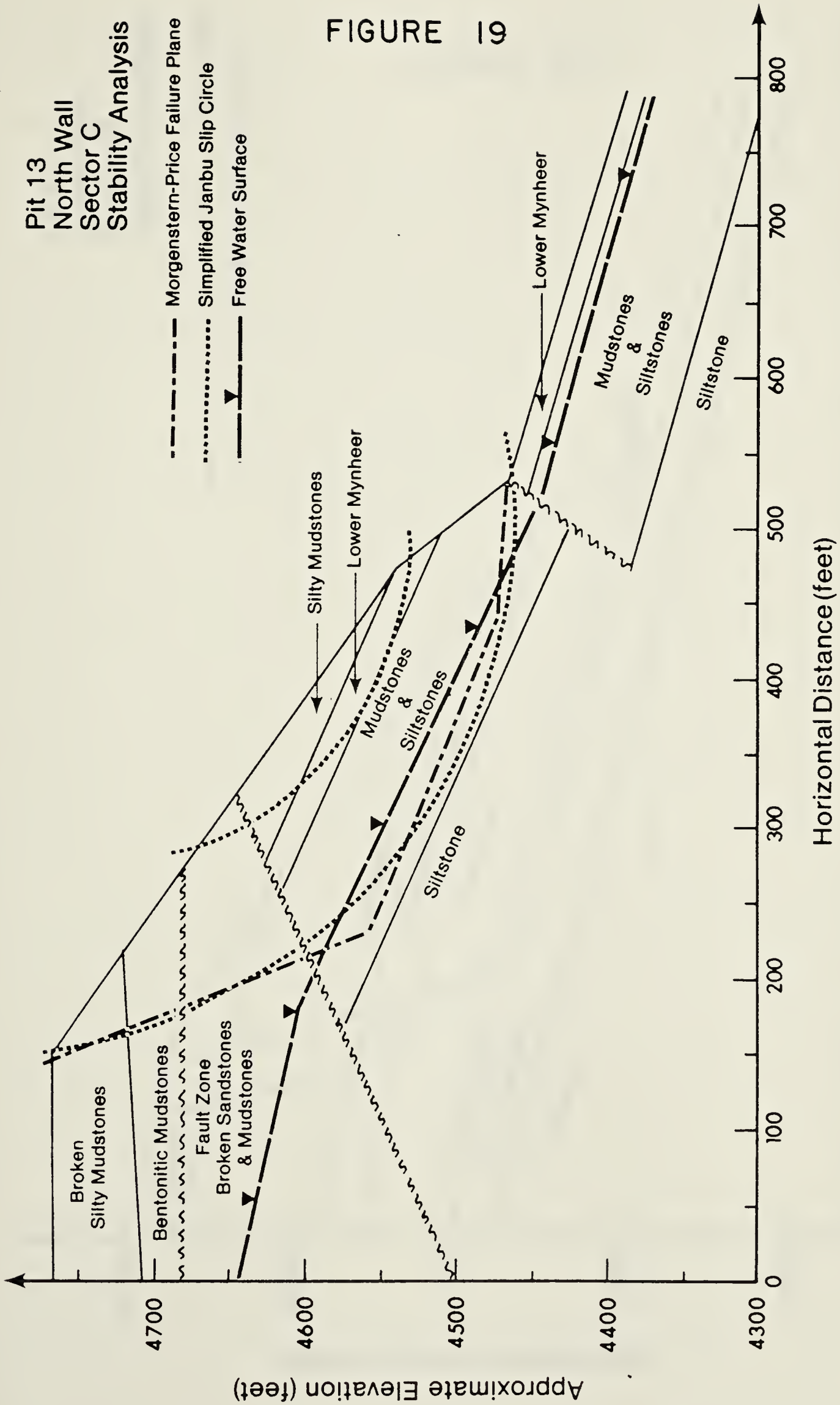
FIGURE 17

FIGURE 18



Pit 13
North Wall
Sector C
Stability Analysis

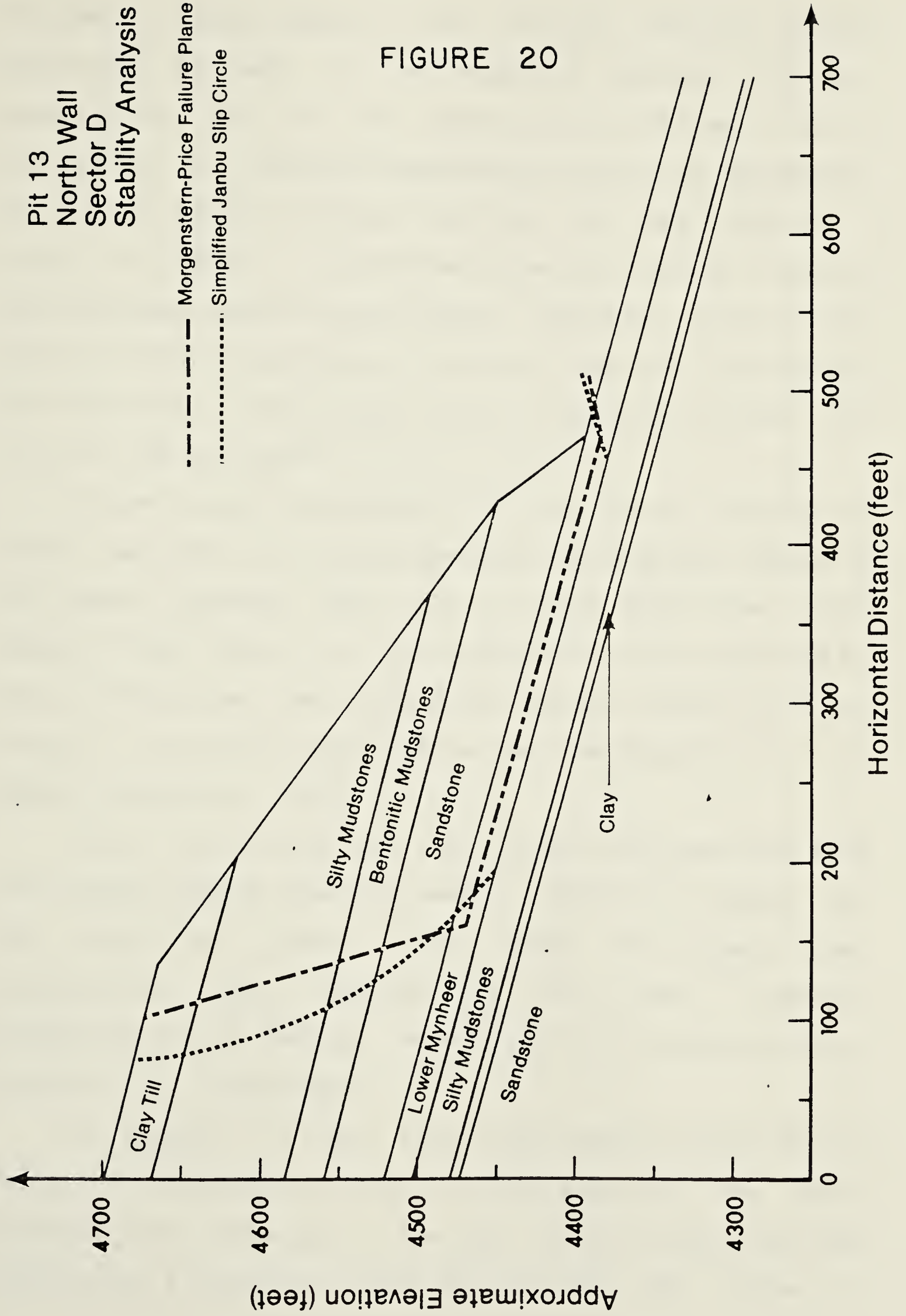
FIGURE 19



Pit 13
North Wall
Sector D
Stability Analysis

- - - - - Morgenstern-Price Failure Plane
 Simplified Janbu Slip Circle

FIGURE 20



Included in these figures is the critical failure surface determined by each of the stability methods. The wall geometry for each of the Sectors was obtained from a preliminary pit design completed by Luscar Ltd. personnel. The overall Factor of Safety obtained for each sector is given in Table 6. It should be noted that Sector D results were obtained using no pore water pressures. Due to the obvious stability problems, a special study will be required for this area to improve geological information on both the pit wall and coal pod.

As can be seen from Table 6, the overall Factor of Safety obtained from the Morgenstern-Price Method tended to be slightly greater than that of the Simplified Janbu Method. This result is consistent with work completed by Hamel in this area, who found less rigorous methods such as Bishop's to be more conservative than the Morgenstern-Price Method (Chowdhury, 1978).

Close examination of the limited data generated from this study revealed that the overall Factors of Safety for the Simplified Janbu Method does not appear over conservative when compared to the more rigorous Morgenstern-Price Method, especially for the more critical Sectors (F of S approaches 1).

In summary, it was found that Sector A would have a Factor of Safety of 1.0 with a 40° slope on the upper benches, and a 50° slope in the coal. Sector B was predicted stable with a Factor of Safety of 1.13 with 35° slopes in

TABLE 6

COMPARISON OF OVERALL
FACTOR OF SAFETY

LIMIT EQUILIBRIUM METHOD	SECTORS			
	A	B	C	D
Morgenstern-Price	1.07	1.33	1.38	0.79
Simplified Janbu	1.00	1.13	1.15	0.61

the upper benches and 55° slopes in the coal. A similar geometry was obtained for Sector C, but local instabilities may result in some failures of the middle benches. Careful bench design, for which more detailed mapping will be required during excavation, may alleviate the problem. Sector D was found to be unstable owing to the structure and location of the Lower Mynheer in this wall, and mining may not be feasible. The seam dips into the pit in the eastern sector at approximately 15° . Lowering of the overall pit angle to stabilize the wall would probably be uneconomical. However, before such stabilizing methods as slot mining or berm construction are examined, further geologic data is required. The geologic structure of the wall rock is poorly defined at present as is the existing outline of the Upper Mynheer coal pod.

5.4 Discussion

According to Chowdhury (1978), differences in accuracy among various limiting equilibrium analyses depend largely on the type of problem. Generally speaking, where the geological aspects control the critical slip surface and can be easily predicted, the discrepancies between methods are small. Chowdhury states that, as a general rule, deep potential failure masses with high pore pressures should be analysed by relatively rigorous procedures. It is also very important to simulate real failure surfaces rather than to

approximate them with circular failure surfaces.

For the slopes studied in the Pit 13 area, the Simplified Janbu Method appears to be adequate. The inaccuracies resulting from estimation of rock mass strength properties are such that the advantages of the more rigorous analysis technique becomes negligible, since it is the accuracy of input parameters which control the accuracy of the results.

In the Pit 13 area, the presence of bentonitic clay layers within the stratigraphic sequence is a critical geotechnical factor, yet their thickness and continuity is very difficult to determine. The clays originate from bentonitic mudstones, but there is a significant difference between the strength properties of the two lithologies. The steep topography and climatic conditions accelerate the weathering process of the mudstones, producing plastic clays which play a critical role in wall stability. Since the basic geological data is somewhat speculative, a high degree of accuracy in the analysis method is not justified.

Detection of the fine (5 cm) clay layers in the Mynheer A region is extremely difficult by any known conventional methods. Many of the mudstones in the Pit 13 area will break down immediately upon being disturbed and exposed to water. Therefore, clay layers observed in core samples may or may not be present in the undisturbed wall rock. Borehole Geophysical methods are not able to distinguish clay layers from bentonitic mudstones and hence a critical feature can

easily be undetected. Other factors such as joint continuity and infilling are difficult to quantify, yet are known to be significant in slope stability.

On the basis of the above discussion and the minor differences between the factors of safety determined by the two limiting equilibrium methods, it appears that the use of a rigorous method, such as Morgenstern-Price for slope design at Coal Valley cannot be justified for most design problems.

Although use of a computer is mandatory with the Morgenstern-Price Method, the primary additional expense is not incurred by computer costs but from the cost of obtaining the detailed input data required to warrant the use of a more rigorous and accurate stability analysis. Therefore, considerably more drilling, laboratory and in situ testing, field mapping, groundwater investigations, and sensitivity analyses would be required on the Coal Valley property than has been collected to date. For the typical mining situation and complex geology at Coal Valley, the added expense of such an increased level of investigation is not economically and technically justifiable. Consequently, it is more practicable to use slope monitoring during mining to warn of impending failures or major slope movements.

6. Conclusions

The primary objective of this investigation was to analyse the stability of the overall pit walls in Pit 13. A secondary concern was to assess the NCB Cone Indenter and the use of brush platens for uniaxial compressive strength testing.

The stability study indicated that the advantages of increased accuracy of a rigorous method such as Morgenstern-Price cannot be exploited because of the lack of accurate input data. The structural geology and rock mass strength properties of most mining areas at Coal Valley are not known to the degree of accuracy required to warrant the use of the Morgenstern-Price Method. Further investigations to accurately determine strength parameters and structural features of the wall rock are generally not economically feasible.

The actual Factor of Safety predicted by the two stability models for each sector differed slightly, but both methods agreed on whether or not the overall slope for each sector would be stable.

Results of the testing program indicate that the Cone Indenter and brush platens produce strength data which agrees reasonably closely with values obtainable with conventional testing methods. The usefulness of the Cone Indenter and brush platens, especially at the feasibility stage of a geotechnical study, appears very favorable. The Cone Indenter should be of value for mapping and rock

classification purposes, for "cuttability" studies, and in the estimation of rock mass properties such as cohesion. The brush platens will make it possible to prepare and test uniaxial specimens in fragile coal measure rocks which previously has proved difficult. Further research is required to confirm the promising but preliminary results derived from these two devices.

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Relationships Between Some Physical Properties of Stone
Determined by Laboratory Tests

MRDE Report No. 19

March 1971

Appendix A - Description of Lithologies

The following lithologic descriptions have been excerpted from:

Milligan et. al.

Internal Luscar Ltd. Report, January 1979.

Conglomerate

Conglomerate beds range in thickness from a few inches to several feet. They are composed of rounded to subrounded, one to four inch long clasts of orthoquartzite contained in a matrix of strong to weakly cemented, medium grained arkosic sand. In places, the interstices are void of any matrix material and the clasts are loosely contained in the unit. This results in an extremely weak water bearing unit.

Sandstone

The sandstone beds range in thickness from a few feet up to one hundred feet. They are light grey in color, hard, massive, moderately fractured and arkosic in composition. Grain size varies from medium to coarse. Graded and cross-bedding textures are common. Angular to subangular grains of quartz and feldspar, mixed with fine rock fragments and dark ferromagnesian and carbonaceous materials, impart a "salt and pepper" texture to the rock. Silica and clay minerals, together with variable amounts of carbonate are the cementing agents for the sandstone. Locally, thin carbonaceous lamellae are localized in thin beds throughout the sandstones and are usually composed of recognizable plant remains. Weathering of the sandstone near the surface and throughout the unit along fractures and bedding plane partings stains the sandstone rust brown and causes local decementation of the rock to an incompetent,

sandy mass.

Siltstone

Siltstone is similar to the sandstone except for a decrease in grain size and a more variable increase in clay material content. The rock is generally more thinly laminated and is often interbedded with mudstone. The criteria used to distinguish between sandstone and siltstone has been grain size. A rock was labeled siltstone if the grain size is less than 0.3 to 0.2 mm and exhibited a relatively smooth surface. When crushed very fine, silica grit is apparent.

Mudstone

The mudstone beds vary from less than a foot to over 20 feet in thickness. Mudstone is aphanitic, medium to dark bluish grey in color and locally carbonaceous. Although locally massive and competent, the rock is usually fissile parallel to the bedding which is manifested by thin carbonaceous lamallae. Locally, decementation has reduced the rock to a platy, clay-like consistency. Mudstone is readily distinguished from siltstone by the darker gray color and aphanitic grain size. When crushed, no grit is apparent.

Clay

Clay beds vary between a few inches to one foot in thickness. The color varies from light olive green to pale gray in consistency. The beds lighten in proportion to an increase in the amount of bentonite present in the clay. Plasticity varies with the amount of silt and rock fragments present.

Coal

The Mynheer coal seams are intensely sheared and slickensided. Internal variations of the attitude of the shear planes are common. Partings and inclusions in the coal are predominantly of sandstone, a few are of a bentonitic and silty mudstone. Most are less than a few inches in diameter.

Appendix B - Testing Results

The laboratory testing results are categorized according to lithology and listed in the following sections.

Clay

Average Sample Description

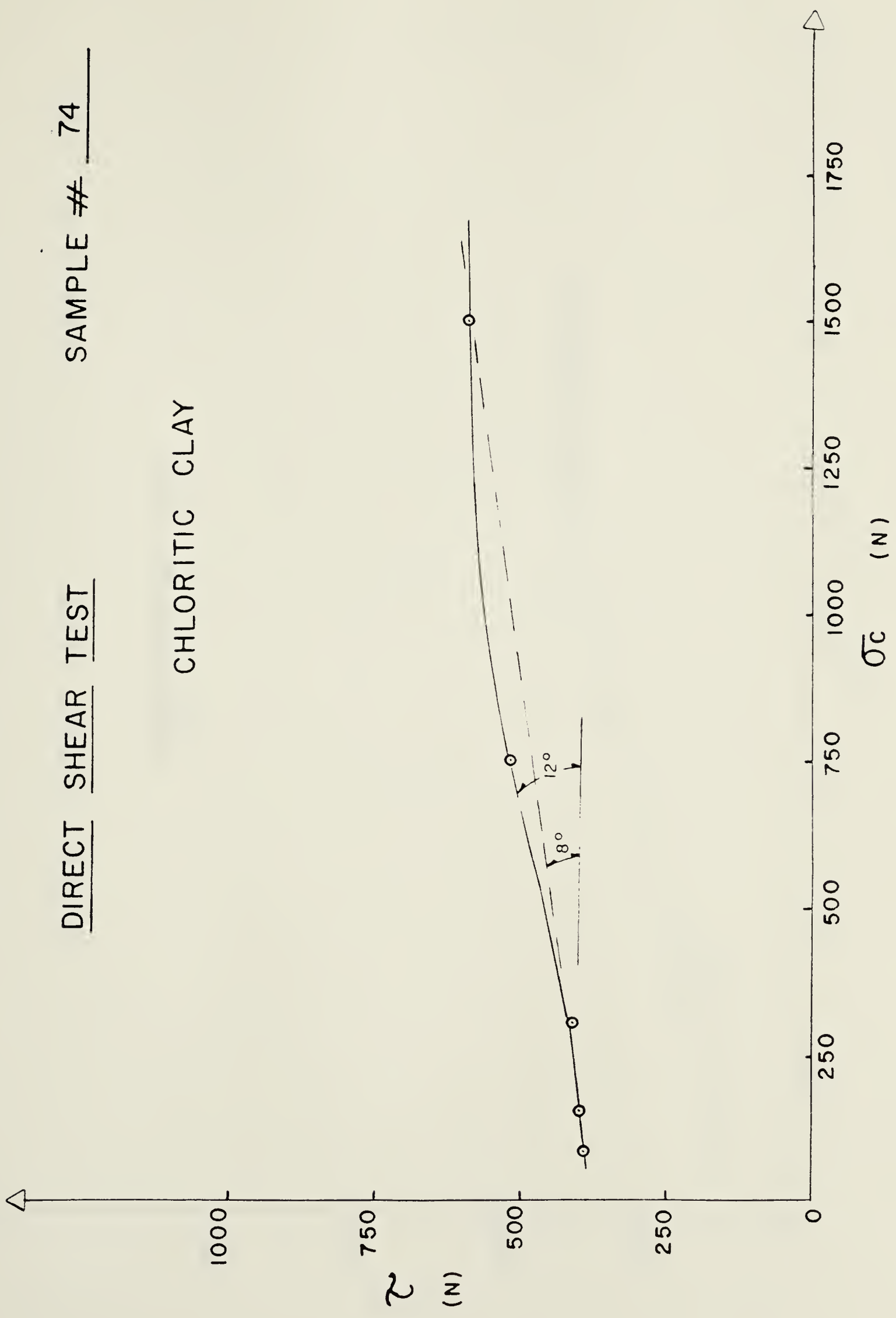
Light to medium grey bentonitic clays, chloritic samples tend to light greenish tones, carbonaceous clays range from medium to dark grey. Generally aphanitic, sometimes gritty due to presence of very fine coal fragments. Soapy textures are frequent, especially along previous shear planes. Clays are generally cohesive, malleable, may include intermottled mudstone inclusions. Often derived from bentonitic mudstones and have been observed in outcrops to contain the original jointing systems of the mudstone.

LABORATORY TEST RESULTS: CLAY

Corehole Number	Sample Number	As Received Moisture Content	Atterberg Limits		Direct Shear		
			Liquid	Plastic	$\phi'p$	$\phi r'$	$\frac{c'}{(kPa)}$
2193	54	27.3%	64.9%	38.6%	-	-	-
2194	74	34.6%	100.5%	46.8%	12.0°	8°	103
2194	78	-	-	-	12.5°	-	34
2194	80	9.6%	90.8%	29.8%	10.0°	-	83

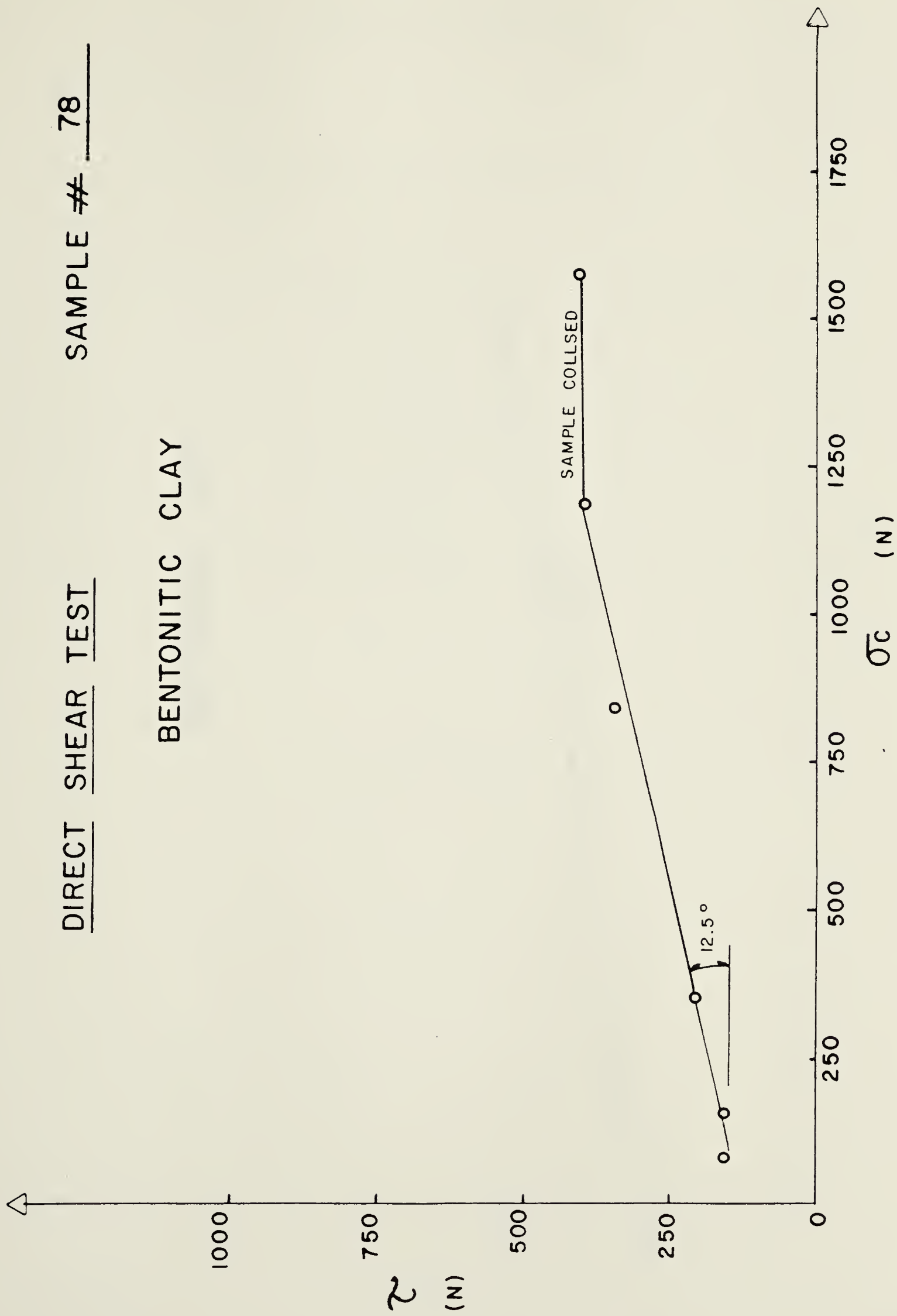
DIRECT SHEAR TEST SAMPLE # 74

CHLORITIC CLAY



DIRECT SHEAR TEST SAMPLE # 78

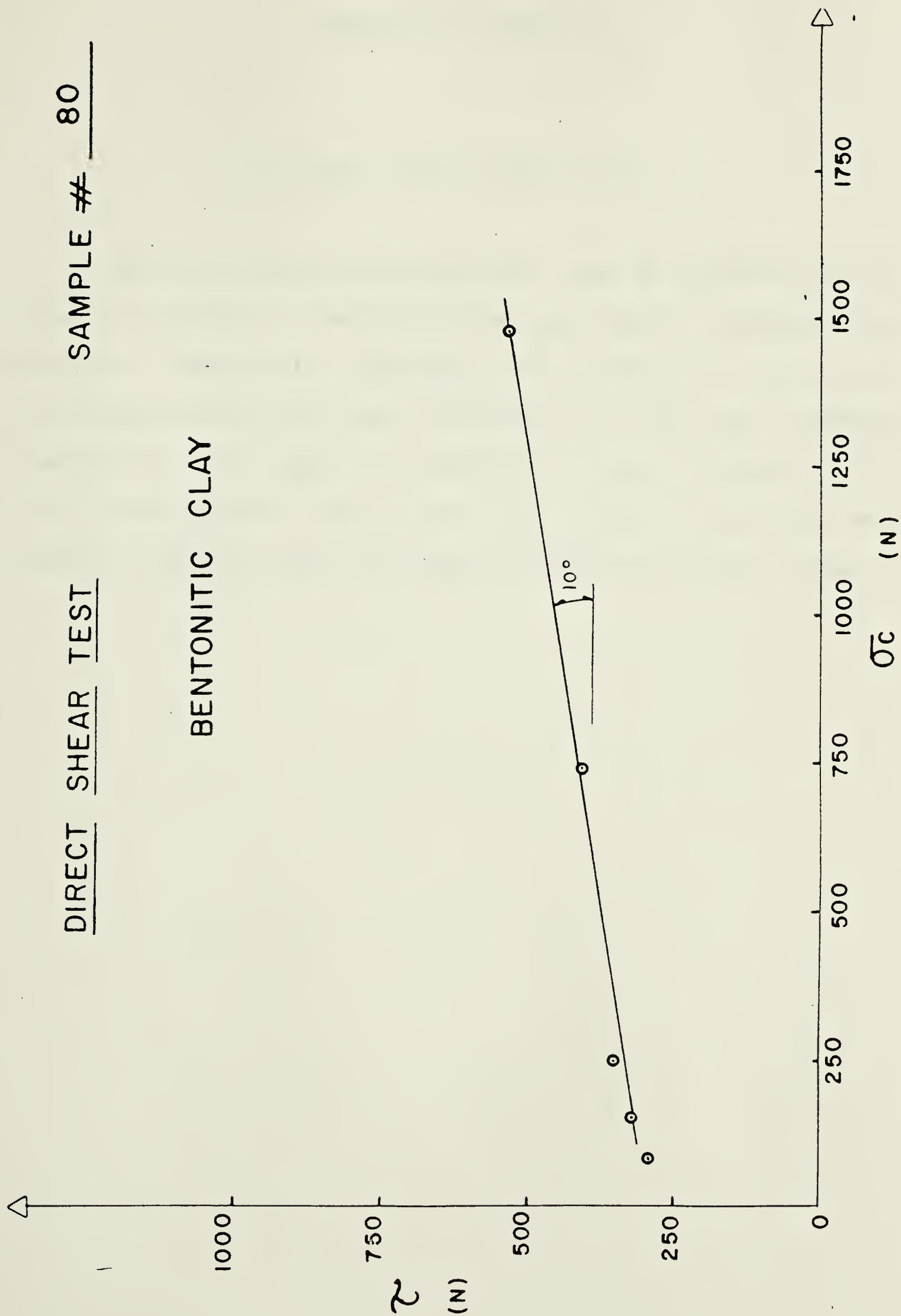
BENTONITIC CLAY



SAMPLE # 80

DIRECT SHEAR TEST

BENTONITIC CLAY



Bentonitic Mudstone

Average Sample Description

Light grey bentonitic mudstones, may be greenish due to chloritic content or range to dark grey due to carbonaceous material. Bentonitic mudstones are generally aphanitic, often associated with clays. Perimeter of the core samples frequently broke down to bentonitic clays, interior still intact and exhibits rock qualities. Often fractured and sheared, contain highly polished slickensided shear planes.

LABORATORY TEST RESULTS: BENTONITIC MUDSTONE

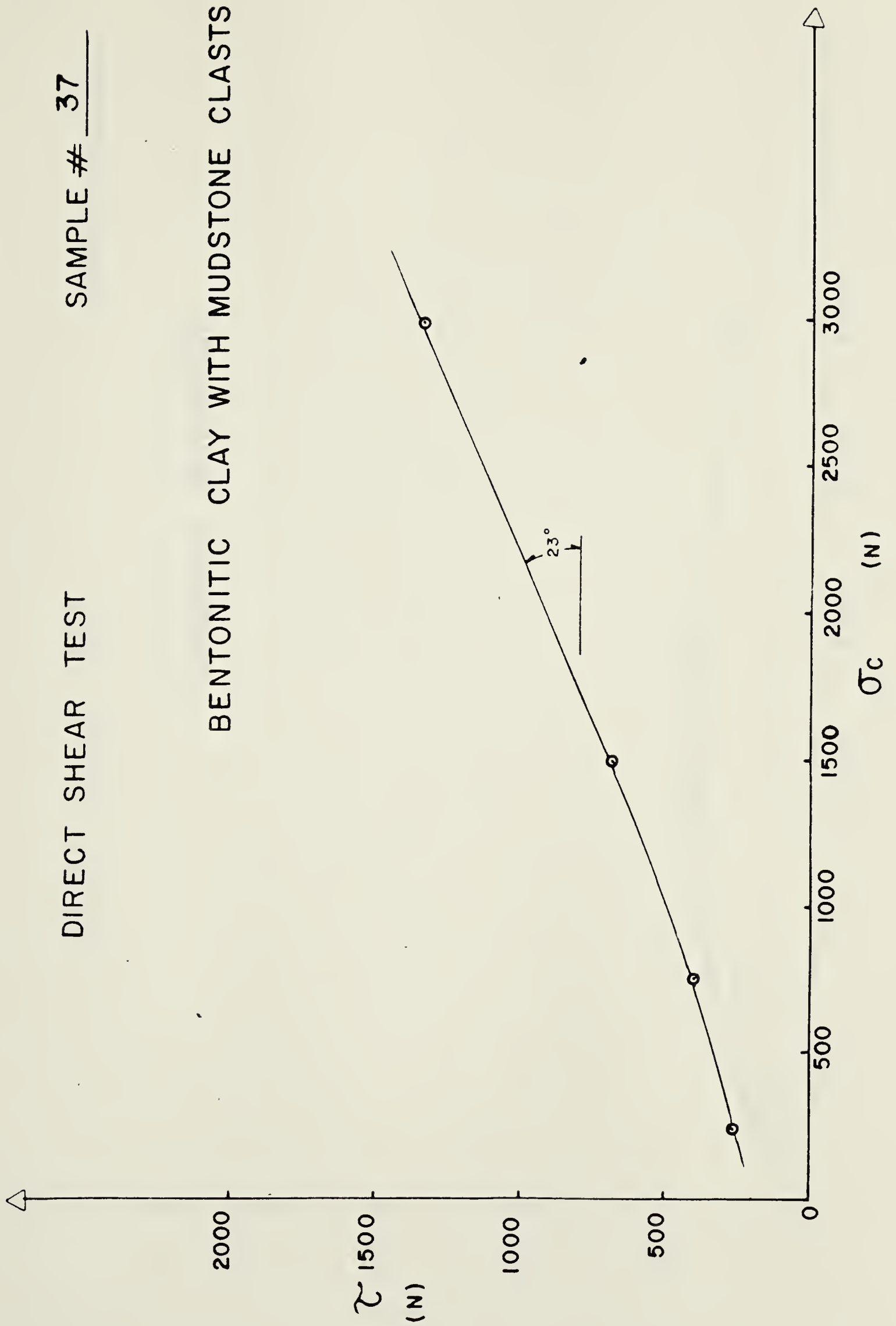
Corehole Number	Sample Number	As Received Moisture Content	24 Hour Water Absorption	Direct Shear		
				$\phi'p$	$\phi'r$	$\frac{C'}{(kPa)}$
2192	37	-	-	23°	-	55
2192	38	-	-	27°	19°	21
2192	40	-	-	21°	-	55
2192	42	7.1%	-	-	-	-
2192	43	7.5%	-	-	-	-
2192	45*	19.5%	-	19°	17°	0
2192	46	38.8%	-	-	17°	34
2192	48	15.4%	-	-	-	-
2192	49	4.9%	0.14%	-	-	-
2193	56	19.4%	-	-	-	-
2193	57	16.2%	-	18°	-	26
2193	60	14.0%	-	-	-	-

* Remolded Sample

DIRECT SHEAR TEST

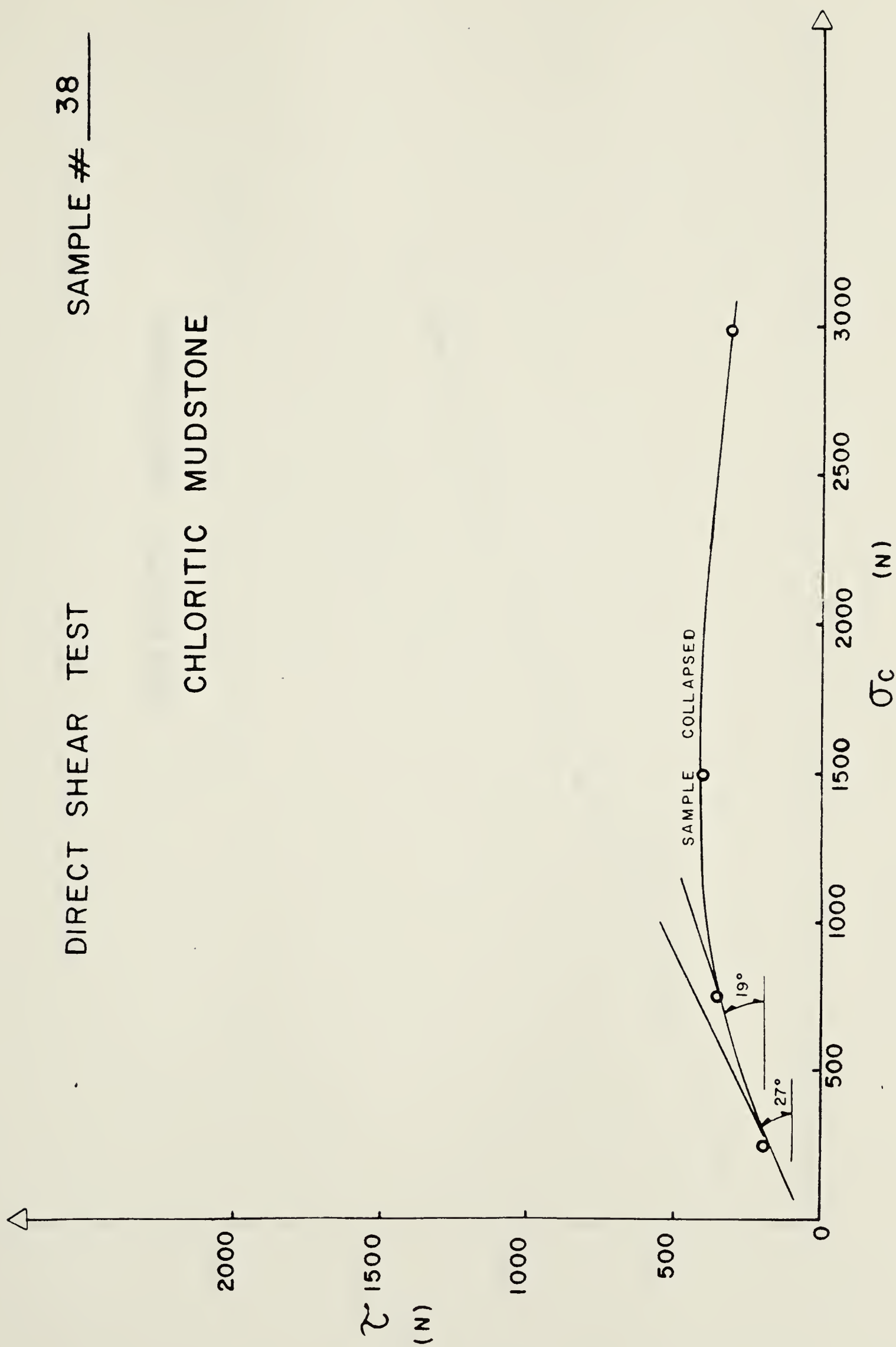
SAMPLE # 37

BENTONITIC CLAY WITH MUDSTONE CLASTS



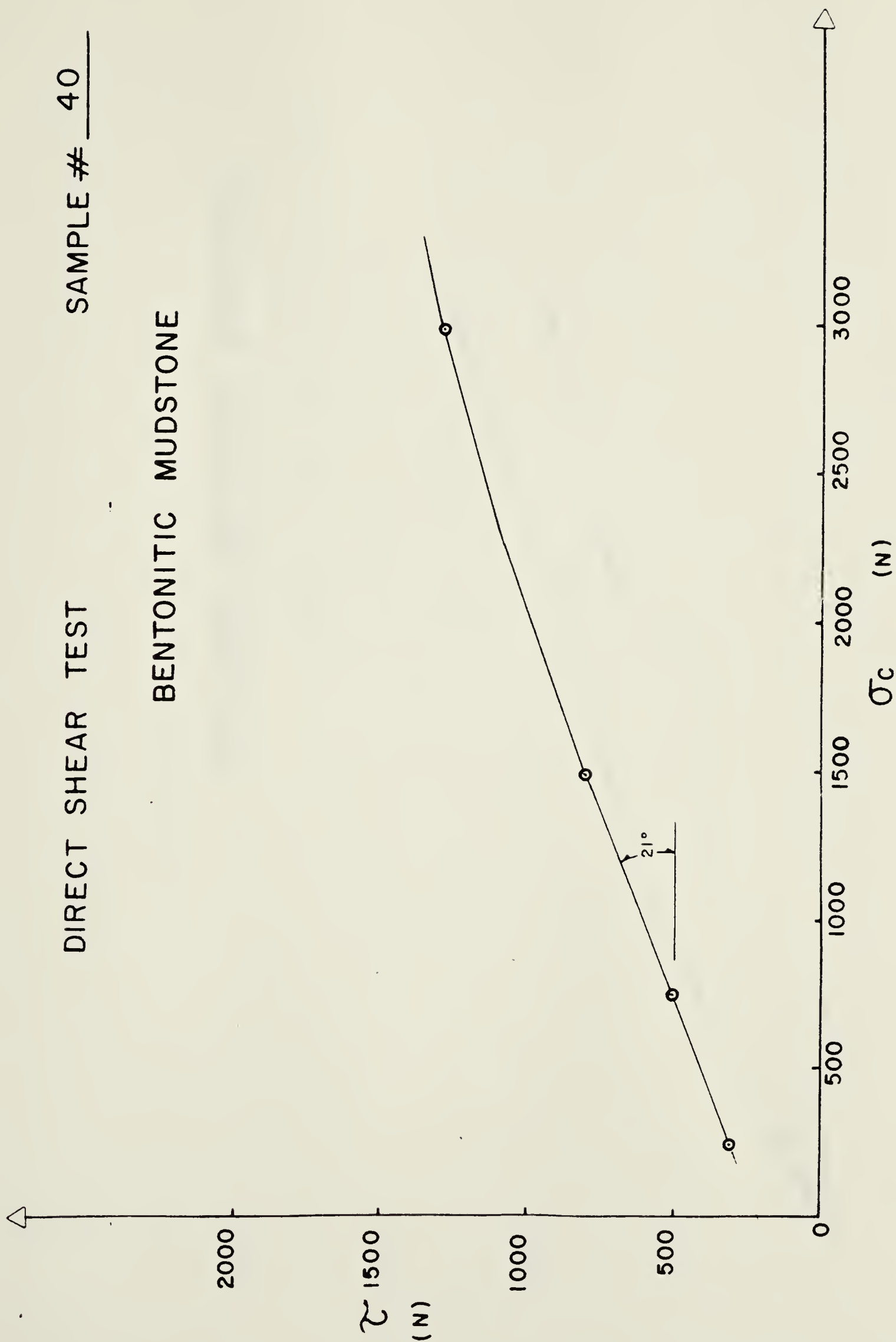
DIRECT SHEAR TEST SAMPLE # 38

CHLORITIC MUDSTONE



DIRECT SHEAR TEST SAMPLE # 40

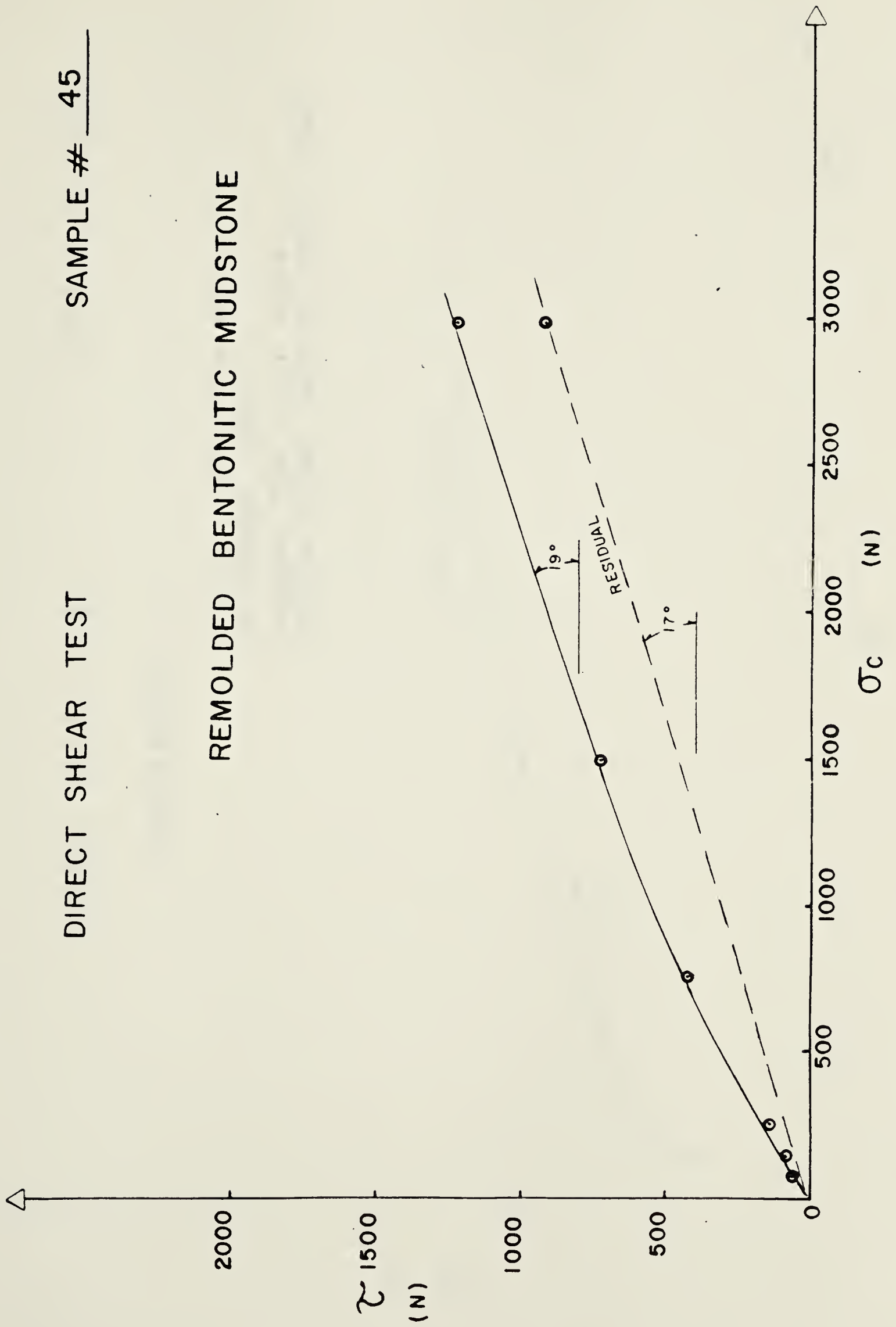
BENTONITIC MUDSTONE



DIRECT SHEAR TEST

SAMPLE # 45

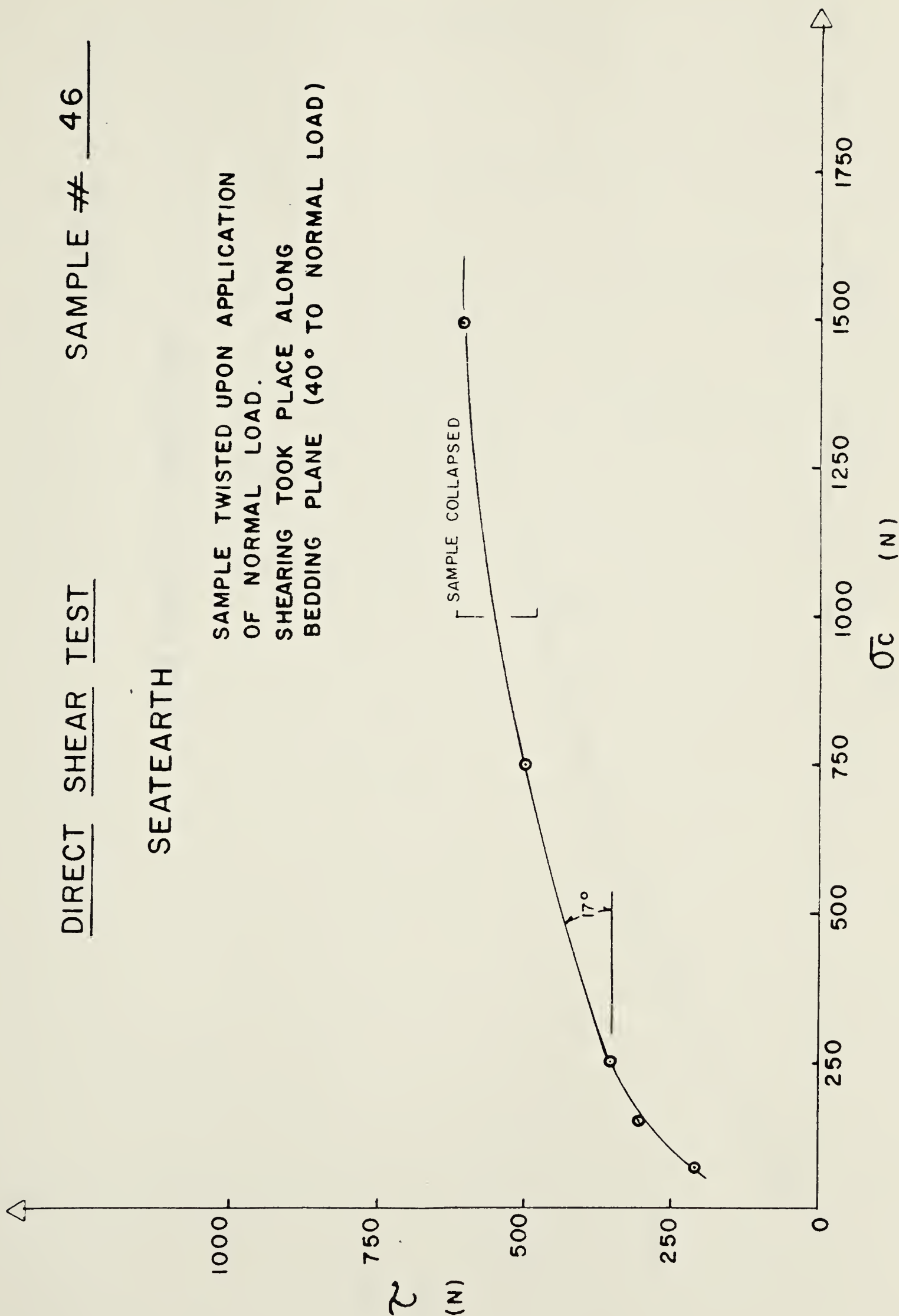
REMOLED BENTONITIC MUDSTONE



DIRECT SHEAR TEST SAMPLE # 46

SEATEARTH

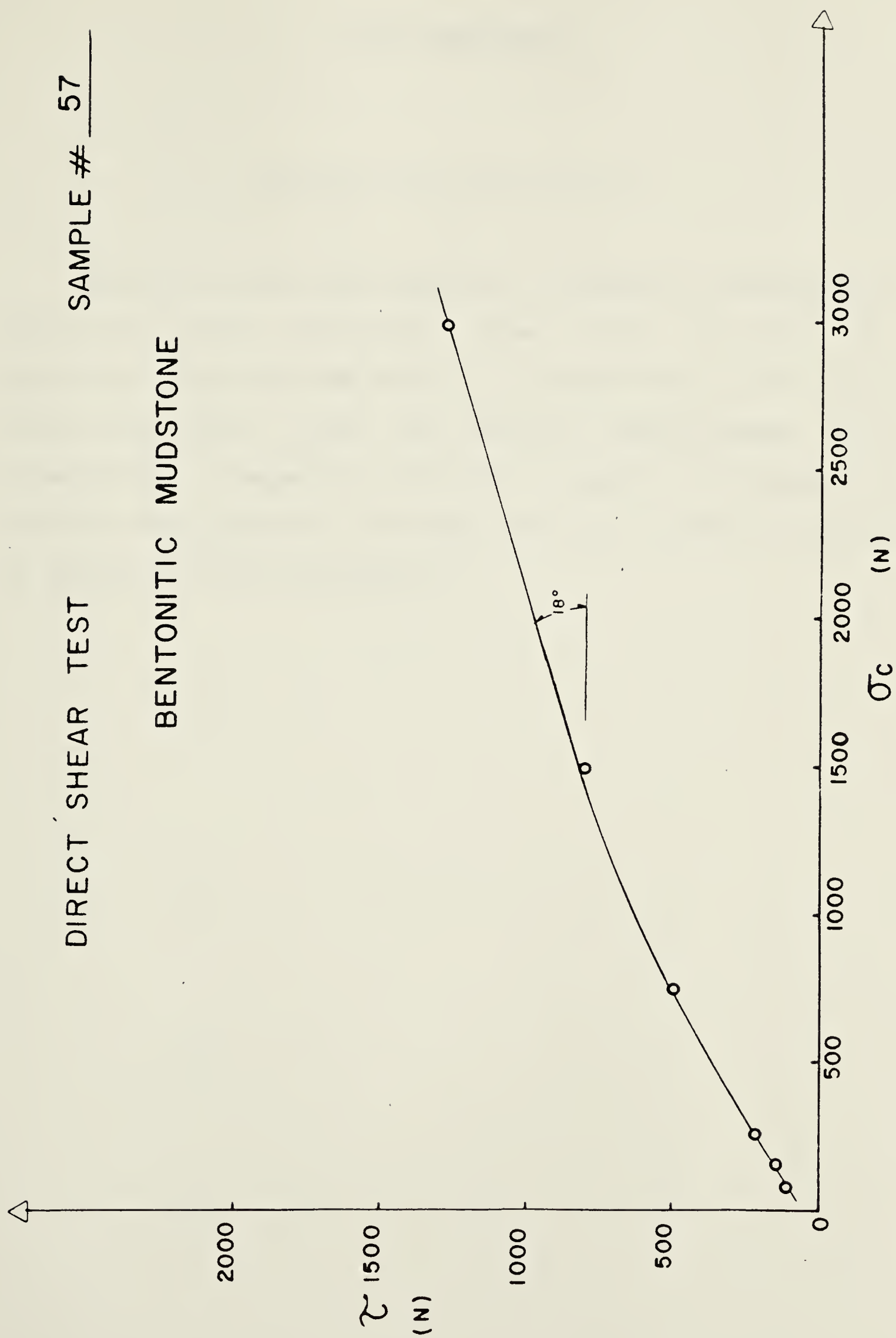
SAMPLE TWISTED UPON APPLICATION
OF NORMAL LOAD.
SHEARING TOOK PLACE ALONG
BEDDING PLANE (40° TO NORMAL LOAD)



DIRECT SHEAR TEST

SAMPLE # 57

BENTONITIC MUDSTONE



Silty Mudstones

Average Sample Description

Medium to dark grey mudstones, frequently carbonaceous containing coaly inclusions. Often silty, but may be aphanitic. Name derived from it's similarities to siltstone rather than grain size. May contain cobble-shaped clay interclasts, frequently chloritic. Samples are generally cohesive and competent, although jointing is common. Bedding is generally indistinguishable.

LABORATORY TEST RESULTS: SILTY MUDSTONE

Corehole Number	Sample Number	As Received Moisture Content	Brazilian Disc (MPa)	Cone Indenter		Uniaxial Compressive Strength
				(CI#)	(MPa) †	
2193	61		1.34*	0.62	12.2	
2193	64		1.47	0.73	17.2	
2193	65	15.7%				
2193	67	8.0%		0.52	7.7	11.4
2193	69	9.7%		1.67	59.8	

* Tested parallel to bedding
† Derived from the relation $\sigma_c = 45.3 \text{ (CI\#)} - 15.9$

Siltstone

Average Sample Description

Medium grey siltstone, often greenish due to chloritic content, generally very fine grained. Siltstones often contain carbonaceous nodules and laminations, useful for distinguishing bedding. Calcareous cementation, generally cohesive. Siltstones are frequently jointed, exhibiting lustrous shear surfaces, generally planar.

LABORATORY TEST RESULTS: SILTSTONE

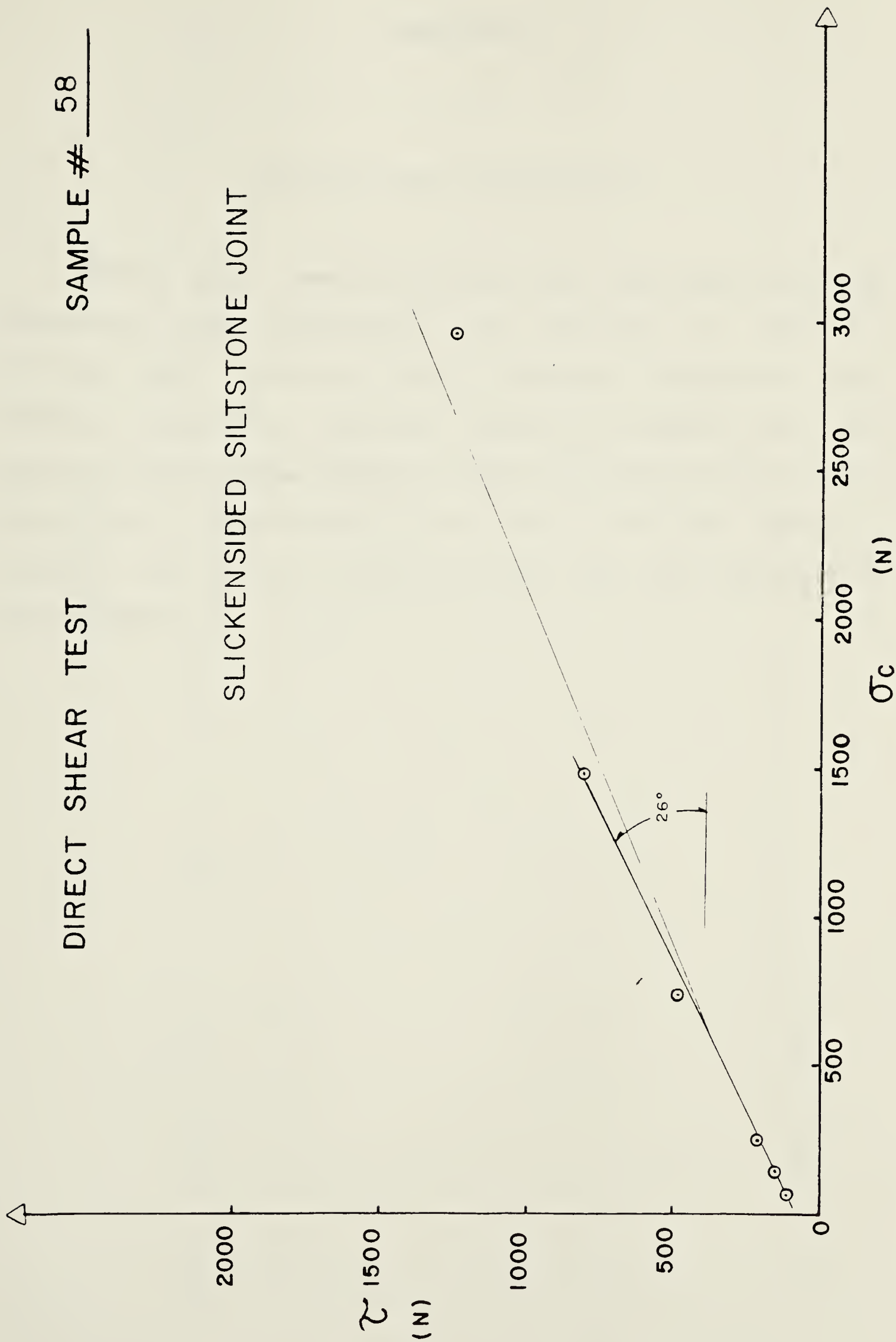
Corehole Number	Sample Number	As Received		24 Hour Water Absorption	Direct Shear		Brazilian Disc (MPa)	Cone Indenter		Uniaxial Compressive Strength	
		Moisture Content	Moisture Content		$\phi'r$	C' (kPa)		(CI#)	(MPa)†	Solid Platens (MPa)	
2192	41	6.3		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2192	47	5.8		0.15	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2192	48	6.0		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2192	50	8.1		-	-	-	1.71	0.82	21.2	-	
2193	58	7.3		-	26*	27.5	-	-	-	-	
2193	62	6.6		-	-	-	-	0.96	27.6	18.7	
2193	70	17.0		-	-	-	-	0.69	15.4	-	
2193	71	10.8		-	-	-	0.63	0.62	12.2	-	
2194	77	7.1		-	-	-	1.90	1.06	32.1	-	
2194	79	18.2		-	-	-	-	0.81	20.8	-	
2194	82	6.5		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
2194	83	6.9		-	-	-	1.43	0.78	19.4	-	

* Calcite joint
+ Derived from the relation $\sigma_c = 45.3 \text{ (CI\#)} - 15.9$

LABORATORY TEST RESULTS: SILTSTONE

Corehole Number	Sample Number	As Received		Brazilian Disc (MPa)	Cone Indenter (CI#)	Cone Indenter (MPa)*	Uniaxial Compressive Strength		
		Moisture Content					Solid Platen (MPa)	Brush Platen (MPa)	Angle of Break To Core Axis
2194	85	6.6%		0.67 ^{††}	0.70	15.8	-	-	-
2194	86**	3.6%		2.42 ^{††}	1.11	34.4	-	20.6	65°
2194	86	3.6%		-	2.35	90.6	-	89.0	80°
2194	87	-		1.08	0.56	9.5	7.45	-	-
2194	88	-		-	0.59	10.8	-	12.5	75°
2194	89	9.1%		-	0.52	7.7	-	-	-
2192	259	-		-	1.32	43.9	-	50.8 [†]	-
2192	261	-		-	1.27	41.6	-	53.5 [†]	-
2192	309	-		-	1.11	34.4	-	41.7 [†]	-
2192	346	-		-	1.25	40.7	-	32.8 [†]	-
2192	366	-		-	1.15	36.2	-	25.6 [†]	-

* Derived from the relation $\sigma_c = 45.3 \text{ (CI\#)} - 15.9$
** Sample sheared
† Average angle of break to core axis = 83°
†† Tested parallel to bedding



Sandstone

Average Sample Description

Medium grey, medium grained salt and pepper textured sandstone. Very calcareous, any jointing is generally infilled with calcite. Often contains fragmented coaly lamellae, possibly rootlets. Generally massive but may contain carbonaceous banding. Planar jointing systems seldom show signs of shearing but are often infilled. Generally cohesive and intact but easily break down when subjected to the elements.

LABORATORY TEST RESULTS: SANDSTONE

Corehole Number	Sample Number	As Received Moisture Content	Brazilian Disc (MPa)	Uniaxial Compressive Strength				Angle of Break To Core Axis
				Cone Indenter (CI#)	(MPa)**	Solid Platen (MPa)	Brush Platen (MPa)	
2193	59	4.5%	0.07*	0.77	19.0	-	-	-
2193	61	2.2%	1.40*	0.77	19.0	-	-	-
2193	62	-	1.40*	0.89	24.4	-	-	-
2193	63	-	0.01*	0.56	9.5	14.7	-	-
2193	66	-	2.07	1.63	57.9	-	32.7	85°
2193	68	7.7%	-	0.63	12.6	-	17.3	75°
2193	72	-	-	0.89	24.4	51.6	-	80°
2194	73	6.7%	4.73	1.76	63.8	52.6	-	-
2194	75	9.6%	0.01*	0.56	9.5	-	-	-
2194	81	7.2%	1.35	0.69	15.4	-	-	-
2194	84	-	2.79	0.95	27.1	-	-	-
2194	88	-	-	1.06	32.1	12.5	-	70°

* Tests conducted parallel to bedding
** Derived from the relation $\sigma_c = 45.3 \text{ (CI\#)} - 15.9$

LABORATORY TEST RESULTS: SANDSTONE

Corehole Number	Sample Number	Uniaxial Compressive Strength			
		Cone Indenter (CI#)	Solid Platen (MPa) †	Brush Platen (MPa) ††	
2192	256	2.44	7.0**	-	
2192	265	2.05	-	77.0	
2192	266	1.81	81.7	-	
2192	269	1.15	44.7	-	
2192	271	1.25	32.6	-	
2192	272	1.59	15.6**	-	
2192	273	1.41	78.8	-	
2192	274	1.63	57.3	-	
2192	297	1.35	14.2**	-	
2192	341	1.72	72.3	-	
2192	350	1.72	33.9	-	

* Derived from the relation $\sigma_c = 45.3 \text{ (CI\#)} - 15.9$

** Failure occurred along a joint plane

† Average angle of break to core axis = 70°

†† Average angle of break to core axis = 83°

Coal

Average Sample Description

Coal samples were derived from Lower Mynheer seam, resulting in generally dull black dirty coals with high clay contents. Seatearth samples were common, consisting of dark grey to black gritty, carbonaceous clays. One to two foot thick clean coal in Lower Mynheer was generally sheared, exhibiting highly polished and slickensided shear planes. Clean coal fairly intact with possible conchoidal fractures. Testing on coal generally limited to contacts between clays and/or mudstones.

DIRECT SHEAR TEST RESULTS

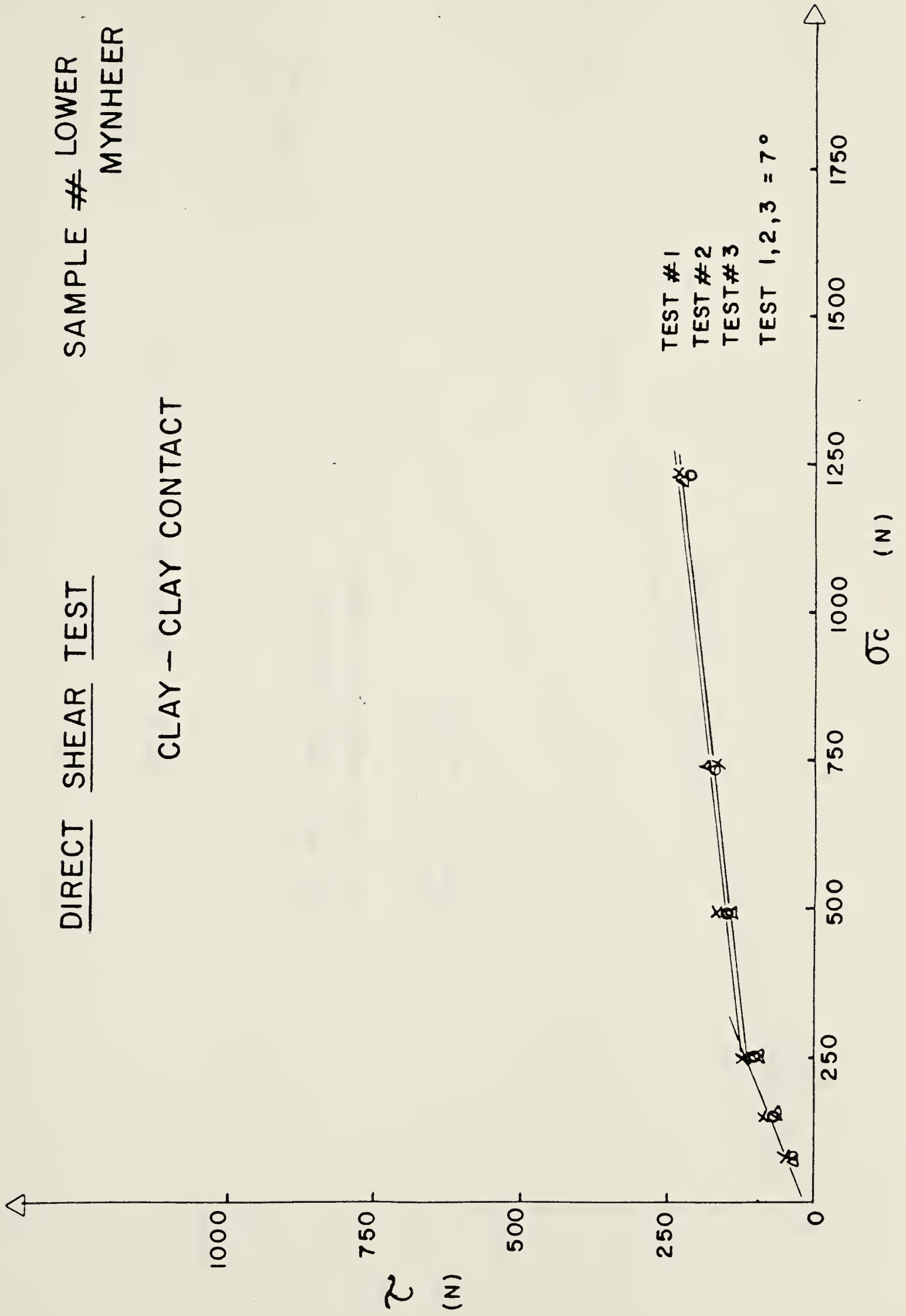
Lower Mynheer Grab Samples

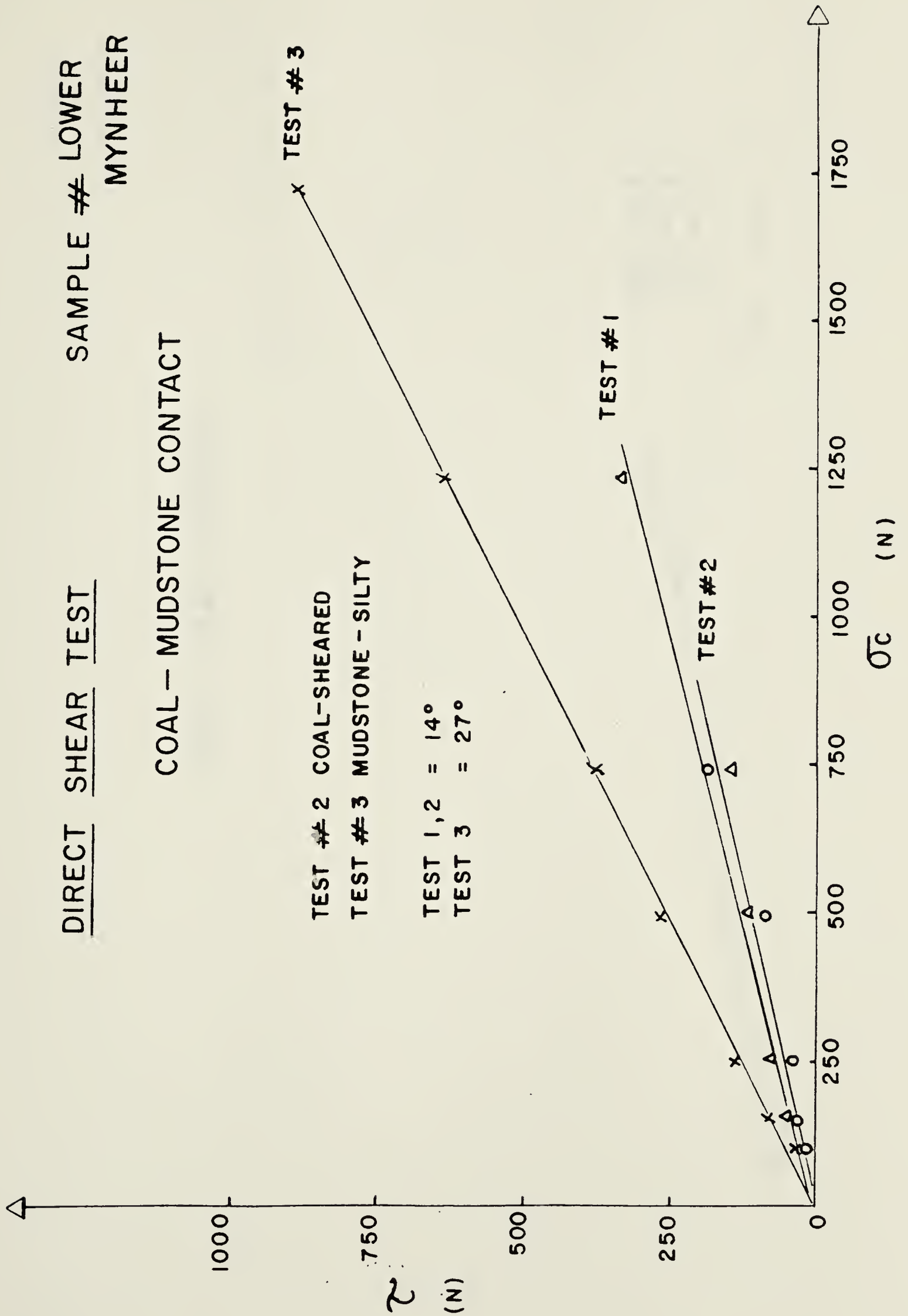
<u>Contact</u>	<u>Sample Number</u>	<u>Direct Shear</u>		
		<u>ϕ'_p</u>	<u>ϕ'_r</u>	<u>$\frac{C'}{(kPa)}$</u>
Clay-Clay	1	-	7°	0
	2	-	7°	0
	3	-	7°	0
Coal-Mudstone	1	-	14°	0
	2	-	14°	0
	3	27°	-	0
Coal-Clay	1	-	11°	13.7
	2	-	11°	13.7
	3	-	11°	13.7
Coal-Clay-Mudstone	1	-	9°	0
	2	-	7°	0
	3	-	7°	0

SAMPLE # LOWER
MYNHEER

DIRECT SHEAR TEST

CLAY - CLAY CONTACT

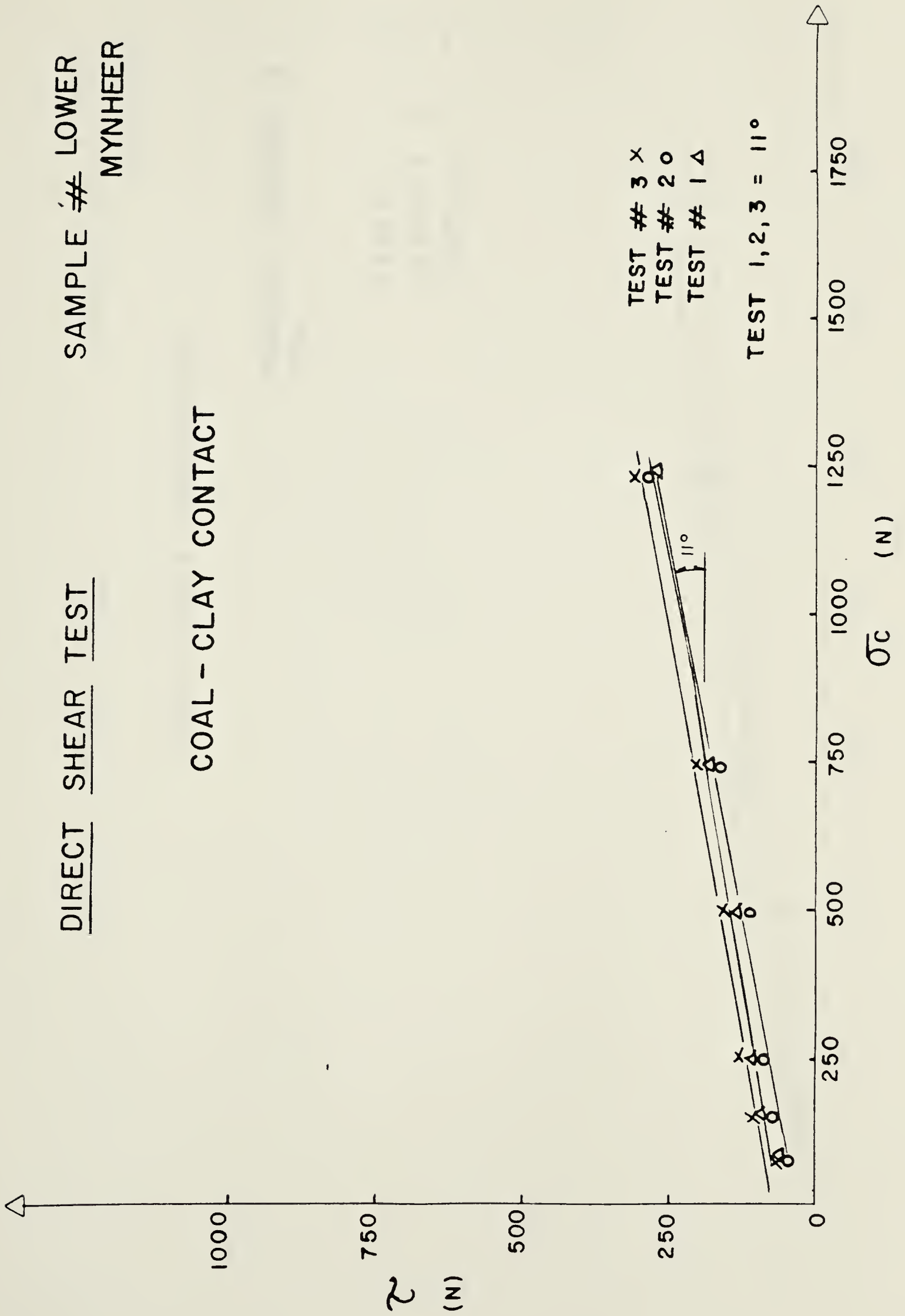




SAMPLE # LOWER
MYNHEER

DIRECT SHEAR TEST

COAL - CLAY CONTACT

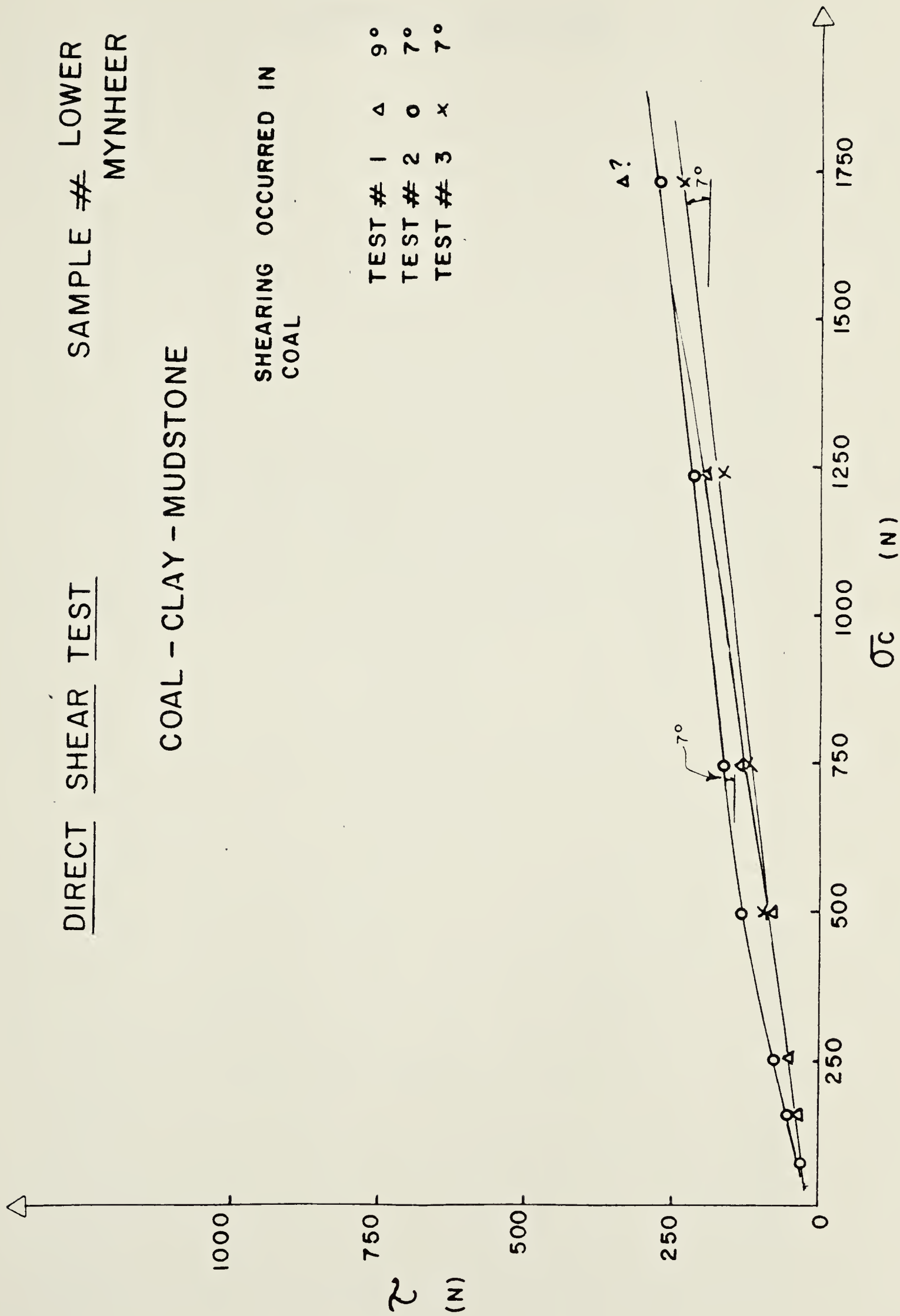


DIRECT SHEAR TEST SAMPLE # LOWER
MYNHEER

COAL - CLAY - MUDSTONE

SHEARING OCCURRED IN
COAL

TEST # 1 Δ 9°
TEST # 2 ○ 7°
TEST # 3 x 7°



Appendix C - Core Logs

Geotechnical Services

Project Coal Valley Pit 13 Corehole Log Hole No. CH 2191 Page 5 of 10
 Location N 39037 E 78129 Elev. 4664 Dip Bearing Date June 22/79

Run No	Length of run	Recovery	Samples Tests	Depth	Graphic Log	Water	Lithological Description Rock Type	minor components	Weathering	Strength or RQD	Defect Spacing	Rock Mass Defects
				190	"		SILTSTONE	Grey, v. fine grained				Jointed as before to 192'
19	8	7.9	99		"			- some iron stained joints				some thin calcite stringers
				195	"			- broken up crushed zones ~ 1' apart				
					"			192 - 204				
				200	"							
				205	"			- faint laminations ~ 85° TCA				
					"			- definite laminations 70-85° TCA				
					"			from 206 - 210				
21	8	7.9	99		"			grades to mudstone				
				210	"		MUDSTONE	dark grey, aphanitic				joint, 35° TCA, carved irregular, slick
					"			carbonaceous				joint 50° TCA, curved, irregular slick ⊥ TMA
22	7	6.7	96		"							
				215	"							
				220	"			carb. at 218-219, thinly lam. 65° TCA				joint 65° TCA, clay filled, rough
					"			calcite filled jts. 50° TCA				jointed 65°, planar, smooth, striate ⊥ TMA
23	6	7.2	120		"							joint 40° TCA, planar, slick, striated // TMA
				225	"							

Water in hole at test level (gph)
 Water in hole at 100 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 200 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 300 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 400 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 500 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 600 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 700 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 800 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 900 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 1000 ft level (gph)

Water in hole at test level (gph)
 Water in hole at 100 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 200 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 300 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 400 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 500 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 600 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 700 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 800 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 900 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 1000 ft level (gph)

Water in hole at test level (gph)
 Water in hole at 100 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 200 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 300 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 400 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 500 ft level (gph)
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 Water in hole at 100 ft level (gph)
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 Water in hole at 700 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 800 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 900 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 1000 ft level (gph)

Water in hole at test level (gph)
 Water in hole at 100 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 200 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 300 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 400 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 500 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 600 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 700 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 800 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 900 ft level (gph)
 Water in hole at 1000 ft level (gph)

GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES

Corehole Log

Project Coal Valley Pit 13 Location N 39037 E 78129 Elev. 4664 Dip Bearing

Run No	Core No	Core Depth	Core Diameter	Hole Diameter	Down hole surveys	Lithological Description	Rock Type	Lithological Description	color, grain size, bedding, structure, components	minor components	Weathering	Strength or RQD	Defect Spacing	Rock Mass Defects	Type, inclination, planarity, roughness, coating, thickness																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														

LUSCAR LTD
Project Coal Valley Pit 13

Corehole Log
Location N 39037 E 78129

GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES
Elev. 4664

Hole No CH 2191
Date June 24/79
Page 10 of 10

Run No.	Core Length (m)	Core Diameter (mm)	Core Weight (kg)	Core Recovery (%)	Core Tests	Depth (m)	Graphic Log	Water	Lithological Description Rock Type color, grain size, bedding, structure, components	Strength or RQD	Defect Spacing (mm)	Rock Mass Defects Type, inclination, planarity, roughness, coating, thickness
42	8	7.9	99			365			COAL			
						370			MUDSTONE Carb. dk. grey brown grades to siltstone			
									SILTSTONE Grey, very fine grained thinly bedded 70-80° TCA			
43	5	0	0									
Total	93					380			TD 380'			

Drilling Rig

Hole Diameter

Drill Method

Bit Used

Core Length

Down hole

Surveys

Turnp

Water

11, APRIL 79 WATER LEVEL

WATER INFLOW

WATER LOSS

Strength (direct tensile strength)

Very Low

Low

Medium

Very High

Extremely High

Weathering

1. Slightly weathered

2. Moderately weathered

3. Highly weathered

4. Extremely weathered

* point load test

Project Coal Valley Pit 13

Corehole Log

Location N 39960 E 78190

Elev. 4784

Dip

Bearing

Hole No. CH2192

Page 4 of 10

Date June 26, 1979

Run No.	Length of run	Footage recovered	Recovery %	Samples Tests	Depth	Graphic	Water	Lithological Description		Weathering	Strength or RQD	Defect Spacing mm	Rock Mass Defects type, inclination, planarity, roughness, coating, thickness
								Rock Type	color, grain size, bedding, structure, components				
14	8	7.6	95		155			Sandstone	Medium Grey Clacareous				Laminations 20° TCA
15	8	7.5	94	Sample 41 163-164 ft	165			Sandstone	Medium Grey				
					170			Siltstone	Medium Grey				
								Mudstone	Dark Grey Badly Broken				
16	8	8.4	105		175			Mudstone	Dark Grey Aphanitic				Joints 10° TCA irregular slicks
17	8	7.8	95		180			Siltstone	Dark Grey				
								Mudstone	Dark Grey Aphanitic				Random Jointing Slick
					185			Siltstone	Clayey Dark Grey				
								Mudstone	Dark Grey Silty				
18	8	7.6	95	Sample 42 1875-189				Mudstone	Medium Grey Aphanitic				

Drilling Rig

Down hole surveys

Bit used

Water

11, APRIL 79 WATER LEVEL

WATER INFLOW

Strength (correct tensile strength)
EL. 181-185 LOW
EL. 186-187 LOW
EL. 188-189 M-MEDIUM
VIC. 190-191

PA. 181-185
EL. 186-187
EL. 188-189
NO. 181-185

note no. CH2192
Page 7 of 10
Date June 27, 1979

GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES

Corehole Log

Loc. 1 Coal Valley, Pit 13 Location N39660 E78190 Elev. 4784 Dip Bearing

Corehole No.	Depth (ft)	Core Length (ft)	Core Weight (lb)	Samples Tests	Depth (ft)	Lithological Description color, grain size, bedding, structure, components	Rock Type	Weathering	Strength or RQD	Defect Spacing mm	Rock Mass Defects type, inclination, planarity, roughness, coating, thickness
27	8	8.1	101		260	Medium Grey Aphanitic	Mudstone				
					265	Medium Grey	Siltstone				Joints 50° TCA, Planar Slick
						Clayey					
28	8	7.7	96	Sample 47 2672-264	270	Calcareous - Calcite veins Medium Grey	Sandstone				Joints 50° TCA Planar
					275	Medium Grey Aphanitic	Mudstone				Laminations 40° TCA
29	8	7.3	91			Dark Grey Carb. Aphanitic	Mudstone				
					280	Dark Grey Chloritic Aphanitic Clayey Medium Grey	Mudstone Siltstone				Joints at 80° TCA Planar Slick
											Random Joints Planar
30	8	7.8	95	Sample 48 285-2872	285	Medium Grey Chloritic Aphanitic Broken	Mudstone				
						Carb. Dark Grey	Clay				
					290	Medium Grey Aphanitic	Mudstone				Joints 85° TCA Planar Slick
31	8	8.5	106		295	Medium Grey Calcite veins	Sandstone				

Drilling Method

Hole Diameter

Bit used

Water

W/11, APRIL 79 WATER LEVEL

WATER INFLOW

Strength (direct tensile strength)

UL, VERT, LOW

UL, VERT, HIGH

NO TESTS

Project Coal Valley, Pit 13 Location N39660 E78190 Elev. 4784 Dip Bearing Hole No. CH2192 Page 8 of 10 Date June 17, 1979

GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES

Corehole Log

Run No	Length of run	Footage recovered	% recovery	Samples Tests	Elev	Graphic	Water	Lithological Description		Weathering	Strength or RQD	Defect Spacing mm	Rock Mass Defects
								Rock Type	color, grain size, bedding, structure, components minor				
					295			Sandstone	Medium Grey, Calcite Veins				Random Jointing Planar
					300								
								Mudstone	Medium Grey Silty Broken				
								Mudstone	Dark Grey Carb. Aphanitic				Bedding 85° TCA
					305			Siltstone	Medium Grey Clayey				Jointing 45° TCA Planar
					310			Siltstone	Medium Grey Component Calcite Veins				
								Mudstone	Medium Grey Aphanitic				Bedding 70° TCA
				Sample 49 3135-3145				Siltstone	Medium Grey				Calcite Vein 3/8" Thick 60° TCA
					315								
								Mudstone	Medium Grey Aphanitic				
					320								
					325								
					330								

Project Coal Valley, Pit 13

Corehole Log

Location N 39660 E 78190 Elev. 4784 Dip

GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES

Hole No. CH2192

Page 9 of 10

Date June 28, 1979

Bearing

Run	Length ft	Dip	Recovery %	Samples Tests	Grain Size g	Water	Lithological Description		Weathering	Strength or RQD	Defect Spacing mm	Rock Mass Defects Type, inclination, planarity, roughness, coating, thickness
							Rock Type	color, grain size, bedding, structure, components				
36	6	5.6	93				Mudstone	Medium Grey Aphanitic				Jointing 50° TCA Planar
							Siltstone	Medium Grey				
							Mudstone Layer 3" thick					
							Siltstone	Medium Grey				Bedding 60° TCA
							Sandstone	Medium Light Grey, Medium Grained				
37	8	8.8	110									
							Mudstone	Medium Grey - Green Chloritic Silty				Bedding 50° TCA Jointing ⊥ to bedding, Planar
				Sample 50 346-347.5			Siltstone	Red Grey Calcite Veins				Jointing ⊥ TCA Planar
38	8	5.0	63				Sandstone	Red Grey Medium Grained Calcite Veins				Bedding 80° TCA
							Mudstone	Medium Grey Aphanitic				Jointing 15° TCA Striations
							Mudstone	Medium - Dark Grey Aphanitic				
39	7	7.7	110				Siltstone	Medium Grey				Bedding 60° TCA
							Mudstone	Medium Grey Aphanitic				Bedding 60° TCA
40	9	8.1	90									

Drilling Rig

Bit used

Down hole surveys

Water

Water Inflow

Water Level

Strength (correct for scale strength)

Weathering

Moisture

Specific Gravity

Unit Weight

Porosity

Permeability

Seepage

Flow

Pressure

Temperature

Time

Geotechnical Services

Hole No. CH2193

Page 2 of 10

Date July 4, 1979

Bearing

Corehole Log

N 39827 E 78218

Dip

Elev. 4771

Location

Project Coal Valley, Pit 13

Run No.	Length of Run	Footage recovered	% recovery	Samples Tests	Depth (ft)	Core (ft)	Lithological Description color, grain size, bedding, structure, components	Rock Type	Weathering	Strength or RQD	Defect Spacing mm	Rock Mass Defects type, inclination, planarity, roughness, coating, thickness
					65		Calcite veins - light grey	Sandstone				bedding at 75° TCA
5	6	5.5	91		70		Light brown	Siltstone				Bedding at 75° TCA
6	8	8	100		75		Light grey, calcite veins	Siltstone				
							Light grey, calcite veins	Mudstone				Bedding at 75° TCA
7	8	7.4	93	55 81-82	80		Light grey	Mudstone				Bedding at 65° TCA
					85		Dark grey, black dull lt. grey, frequent calc. veins coal incls.	Coal				
							Light grey, aphanitic broken	Mudstone				Bedding at 45° TCA
8	8	5.8	73		90		Light grey - chloritic	Mudstone				Bedding at 64° TCA
				56 935-94.5	95		Brown broken	Mudstone				
9	8	7.8	95		100			Mudstone				Bedding at 80° TCA
								Coal				Strength (correct for mass strength) Low Low Low

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Geotechnical Services

Corehole Log

Project Coal Valley, Pit 13

Location N 39827 E 78218

Elev. 4771

Dip

Bearing

Hole No. CH2193

Page 3 of 10

Date July 5, 1979

Run No.	Length of run	Footage recovered	Recovery %	Samples Tests	Elev. of top of hole	Grain size	Water	Lithological Description		Bedding	Strength or RQD	Defect Spacing mm	Rock Mass Defects
								Rock Type	color, grain size, bedding, structure, components				
					100			Mudstone	Light grey-brown aphanitic				Bedding at 65° TCA
								Siltstone	Light grey - calcite bands				
					105			Mudstone	Medium grey - banded				
								Mudstone	highly sheared - chloritic med. grey				Bedding at 65° TCA
10	8	5	63						Light grey aphanitic				Shear zone
								Siltstone	Light grey				
								Mudstone	Light grey - silty				
					110			Mudstone	Sheared-chloritic				
								Siltstone	badly broken light grey				Bedding at 60° TCA
									Lost core				
11	8	6.5	81		115			Siltstone	Light grey				
								Mudstone	sheared chloritic				
									Medium grey - brown				
					120								
12	8	6.5	81		125			Siltstone	Light grey				
								Mudstone	Medium grey chloritic				frequent jointing random
									badly broken				slick
					130			Mudstone	broken medium grey aphanitic				
								Siltstone	Light grey				
								Mudstone	Clay band - medium grey				Bedding at 55° TCA
								Sandstone	Light - medium grey, calcite infillings				
					135								Bedding at 60° TCA

100' in 79 WATER LEVEL
WATER INFLOW

Corehole surveys

Core Diameter
Bit used

Good

100' in 79 WATER LEVEL
WATER INFLOW

Geotechnical Services

Hole No. CH2193
Page 6 of 10
Date July 6, 1979

Corehole Log

Project Coal Valley, Pit 13

N39827 E78218 Elev. 4771

Dip Bearing

Run No.	Length of Run	Recovery	Samples Tests	Elev. (ft)	Graphic Scale	Water	Lithological Description		Weathering	Strength or RQD	Defect Spacing (mm)	Rock Mass Defects type, inclination, planarity, roughness, coating, thickness
							Rock Type	color, grain size, bedding, structure, components				
				205			Siltstone	Medium grey				Bedding at 40° TCA
			205206.1				Sandstone	Medium grey				
							Mudstone	Medium grey aphanitic				Bedding at 35° TCA
23	8	7.4	92	210			Siltstone	Medium light grey				Bedding at 40° TCA
												Random joints, planar
				215								
24	8	7.4	93	220			Sandstone	Medium grained calcite infilling				Bedding at 45° TCA
							Siltstone	Sandy - medium grey				Jointing to bedding
							Sandstone	Medium coarse, medium grey calcite				
			63	225								
25	8	8.7	109	225			Sandstone	Coarse Grained, Calcite veins				Bedding at 60° TCA
							Mudstone	Medium grey				Jointing 11 TCA
								Medium grey				
				230			Siltstone	Sandy, medium grey				Bedding at 40° TCA
							Mudstone	Medium grey - aphanitic broken				
26	8	8.0	100	235			Siltstone	Medium grey				
							Mudstone	Medium grey - aphanitic				Jointing 55° TCA
			64				Mudstone					
			2385-2391									

WATER INFLUX
WATER LEVEL

WATER INFLUX
WATER LEVEL

WATER INFLUX
WATER LEVEL

WATER INFLUX
WATER LEVEL

WATER INFLUX
WATER LEVEL

LUSCAR LTD
Project Coal Valley, Pit 13
Location N39827 E78218 Elev. 4771 Dip
GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES
Corehole Log
Hole No CH2193
Date July 7, 1979 Page 8 of 10
Bearing

Run No	Drilling Rtg	Core Diameter	Bit used	Method	Run	Recovery	Samples Tests	Depth	Graphs	Notes	Lithological Description	Rock Type	minor components	Weathering	Strength or RQD	Defect Spacing	Rock Mass Defects
											color, grain size, bedding, structure, components						type, inclination, planarity, roughness, coating, thickness
								275			Mudstone Siltstone Mudstone Siltstone	Dark grey, aphanitic Medium grey Dark grey, aphanitic Sandy, medium grey Calcite veins					Planar jointing Bedding at 85° TCA
32	8	8.0	100				68 281-281.7				Siltstone	Medium grey banding					Bedding at 75° TCA
											Sandstone	Medium grey, competent Calcite infillings fine grained					Bedding at 85° TCA
								285									Jointing random - planar
																	Bedding indistinctishable
								290			Siltstone Mudstone	Medium grey Medium dark grey, aphanitic					
33	8	7.0	89								Siltstone	Medium grey - dark grey					Jointing at 60° TCA Planar
								295									
											Mudstone	Medium-dark grey, aphanitic					Jointing at 13° TCA
34	8	8.2	102								Siltstone	Medium-dark grey					Bedding at 45° TCA
								300									Jointing random
											Mudstone	Medium-dark grey, aphanitic					Bedding 45° TCA
								305									
35	8	7.6	95				69 304.2-306				Mudstone	Medium-dark grey, some shearing aphanitic					
											Siltstone	Medium-grey, broken					Jointing at 15° TCA

Drilling Rtg _____ Hole Diameter _____
Drill Method _____ Bit used _____
Notes: * note load test
Strength (direct tensile strength)
Very Low
Low
Medium
High
Very High
Extremely High
Weathering
Fresh
Slightly weathered
Moderately weathered
Highly weathered
Extremely weathered

LUSCAR LTD

Project Coal Valley, Pit 13

Corehole Log

Location N 39865 E 79200 Elev. 4676 Dip

GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES

Bearing

Hole No CH2194

Date July 8, 1979

Page 2 of 9

Run No	Drilling R/g	Hole Diameter	Bit used	Drill Method	Recovery %	Volume recovered	Volume of run	Losses	Depth in	Graphic	Scale	Rock Type	Lithological Description	color, grain size, bedding, structure, components	minor	Weathering	Strength or RQD	Defect Spacing	Rock Mass Defects
5	5	3.2	64						85			Siltstone	Medium grey, sandy						Bedding at 60° TCA
6	9	9.1	101						90			Siltstone	Medium grey						
6	9	9.1	101						95			Mudstone	Medium grey, silty iron staining						
6	9	9.1	101						95			Siltstone	Medium grey, competent						Jointing at 45° TCA
7	8	8.1	101						100			Sandstone	Light grey, very fine grained						Bedding at 60° TCA
7	8	8.1	101						100			Mudstone	Light grey, silty - competent						
7	8	8.1	101						105			Mudstone	Dark grey, silty, carboniterous aphanitic						Jointing random irregular
8	8	8.0	100						110			Siltstone	Light green - sandy, calcite infillings						
8	8	8.0	100						115			Sandstone	Light grey, very fine grained calcite infillings						Bedding at 65° TCA
9	7	6.5	93						115			Siltstone	Medium grey, sandy, calcite veins						Jointing at 35° TCA
9	7	6.5	93						120			Mudstone	Medium grey, aphanitic						
9	7	6.5	93						120			Mudstone	Medium dark grey, aphanitic						Bedding 80° TCA

Drilling R/g

Hole Diameter

Bit used

Drill Method

Down hole

Surveys

Time

Water

Water level

Water inflow

Water loss

Strength (direct tensile strength)

Estimated

Very low

Low

Medium

High

Very high

Extremely high

Weathering

Unweathered

Slightly weathered

Moderately weathered

Highly weathered

Extremely weathered

LUSCAR LTD

Project Coal Valley, Pit 13

Location N39865 E79200

Elev. 4676

Dip

Corehole Log

GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES

Hole No CH2194

Date July 8, 1979

Page 3 of 9

Bearing

Rock Mass Defects

Strength or RQD

Defect Spacing

Rock Mass Defects

type, inclination, planarity, roughness, coating, thickness

Run No	Core No	Core Length	Core Diameter	Core Weight	Core Volume	Core Density	Core Specific Gravity	Core Moisture Content	Core Strength	Core RQD	Core Defect Spacing	Core Rock Mass Defects
10	9	8.0	89									
11	8	8.0	100									
12	8	8.0	100									
13	8	6.8	85									

Drilling Rig

Hole Diameter

Bit used

Down hole

Surveys

Time

Drift load test

Strength (direct tensile strength)

Strength (indirect tensile strength)

Strength (compressive strength)

Strength (shear strength)

Strength (flexural strength)

Strength (impact strength)

Strength (abrasion resistance)

Strength (weathering resistance)

Strength (chemical resistance)

Strength (radiation resistance)

Strength (biological resistance)

Strength (fire resistance)

Strength (seismic resistance)

Strength (acoustic resistance)

Strength (magnetic resistance)

Strength (electrical resistance)

Strength (thermal resistance)

Strength (optical resistance)

Strength (mechanical resistance)

Strength (hydraulic resistance)

Strength (aerodynamic resistance)

Strength (acoustic resistance)

Strength (magnetic resistance)

Strength (electrical resistance)

Strength (thermal resistance)

Strength (optical resistance)

Strength (mechanical resistance)

Strength (hydraulic resistance)

Strength (aerodynamic resistance)

[illegible]

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